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Thursday, January 15, 2015

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MP wants identity check on dead pets

ANIMAL owners in the West Midlands will no longer be informed if their pet is killed on the roads.

The Highways Agency has axed its policy of checking identity chips on animals that are found on roads but only in certain parts of the only in certain parts of the

Campaigners say the decision means some owners may never find out what happened to their pet.

They have won the backing of Dudley North MP Ian

Austin, who said it was un-fair that checks are carried out in some areas and not others.

Overturned

The Government announced last year that all pet dogs would have to have identity chips by 2016 to cut down on stray animals.

Mr Austin has written to

Transport Secretary Patrick
McLoughlin in the hope of
getting the decision overturned.

turned.

He said: "I'm sure lots of people in Dudley will be concerned that their family pet could die on the roads and they might never be informed.

"It's unfair that checks are carried out in some

are carried out in some areas but the West Midlands loses out, so I'm urging the Government to do decent checks across the country."

Danger road safety work

WORK has begun to make a busy road in Cradley Heath safer following a spate of accidents, including one in which a great grandfather

Highway chiefs decided to take action over Barrs Road after concerns were raised by councillors and residents.

by councillors and residents.

The road has a history of accidents and in 2013 retired bricklayer Bernard Betts, aged 85, of Cradley Heath, was knocked down

while walking his dog.

Barrs Road will be narrowed in some places.

CTORY ORE BAI

FAMILIES campaigning against plans to build a convenience store on the car park of a pub are celebrating this week after it was rejected.

Hundreds of people had signed a petition opposing New River Retail's £1million plan for the Co-Operative store next to the Haden Cross Inn in Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath.

Cross Inn in Halesowen
The company said the
proposal would not alter the
pub, but residents feared it
could impact on the popular watering hole's future
with the number of parking
spaces for it reduced from
30 to five.
This week, Sandwell
Council planning officers rejected the firm's proposal on
the grounds of overdevelopment and a lack of parking.
The store would have had
eight car parking spaces.

Application

Tim Haskey, who lives opposite the pub, has led the Friends of Haden Cross Inn group in opposition to the planning application.

The group was due to hold a public meeting at the pub last night.

He said: "I am delighted with the news.
"I would like to think the

ommunity, in getting together and providing a loud voice to express our concerns, was heard and helped influenced the decision.

"The issues were simple. There was no space for the convenience store and we wanted to protect our pub, which is well used by the local community."

The 47-year-old, who works in insurance services, added: "But we are not complacent. We will continue to keep an eye out for any future plan and do what we can to protect our pub."

By Alex Ross

The campaign group has submitted an application to get the pub recognised as an 'asset of community value'.

Under the listing, the pub has to be offered to the com-munity if put up for sale.

Cradley Heath and Old Hill ward Councillor Anne Shackleton, who has also played a role in the cam-paign, said this was a victory residents.

This is tremendous news for local people because the community have come together to fight this pro-posal," she said.

posal," she saw.
"This is an outcome which is right for the neighbour-hood and it is a triumph for the local community. "The campaign will con-tinue to ensure it helps save this valuable public amen-ity."

this valuable public amenity."

New River Retail, which owns the Haden Cross Inn, said the proposals had been designed to help safeguard the pub's future.

It was one of more than 200 acquired by New River Retail from Marston's. The new store would have created up to 20 jobs, according to the firm.

A double garage would have been demolished to help make way for the new store, along with cycle, plant and bin storage areas.

Concert celebrates master of mirth



Barry Smith, Doug Parker, Marlene, Maggie O'Hara, Aynuk and Mel Thomas prepare for the concert at Brierley Hill

MASTER of mirth Tommy Mundon, who died in July aged 80, will be celebrated by friends and colleagues from his 50-year career at a charity show in his memory.

Black Country entertainers Aynuk, Doug Parker and Marlene are just some of the acts on the bill for the show in Brierley Hill next month

Veteran Halesowen comedian Tommy died after a five-year battle with Parkin-son's Disease.

Aynuk, real name Alan Smith, together with friend Doug Parker had discussed with Tommy a show in aid of Mary Stevens Hos-pice, which had helped care for him.

Following Tommy's death, the pair to-

gether with singer Maggie O'Hara have revived the idea for a show to raise cash for the hospice in Hagley Road, Stourbridge.

Mr Smith said: "I worked with Tommy for more than 50 years and it has been a long time since we have all done a show to-gether but we are going to get back together to help raise money for the hospice, while also remembering Tommy."

The show is being held at Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Bank Street, on February 17, from 7.30pm. Tickets are priced £12, available from the Mary Stevens Hospice fundraising office on (01384) 3777778 or the box office on 0870 230 7000.



Comedian Tommy Mundon

Counter protest

A PROTEST is being planned to counter a demonstration by the English Defence League in Dudley.
Black Country Unite Against Fascism (UAF) is organising the action in response to the EDL's planned march on the town centre on Saturday, February 7.
More than 700 supporters of the EDL are expected to show in protest at a new mosque planned by Dudley Muslim Association.
The UAF says its members will assemble in Stone Street Square from 11am,

bers will assemble in Stone Street Square from 11am, and remain positioned in the town centre until the EDL leaves. It has the support of Dudley Trades Union Council and the Mus-

Union Council and the Muslim community.

In a statement, Black
Country UAF spokesman
Jerry Langford said: "The
EDL are coming to Dudley
to ferment hatred, division
and stip up regisms

and stir up racism.
"Wherever the EDL have Wherever the EDL have turned up, we have seen drunkenness and fighting with random attacks on property, places of worship and people of ethnic minor-ity background."

Four years ago violence erupted when the EDL last held a protest in Dudley. Police have warned that violence will not be toler-

● Thugs sent to prison — see page 3

Baggies cap it all at shop

WEST Bromwich Albion fans have cleared out the club shop of its baseball caps – in a nod to their new head coach Tony Pulis. baseball

head coach Tony Pulis.

The former Stoke and
Crystal Palace boss, who
recently took over at The
Hawthorns, is known for his
trademark baseball cap during games. Fans have now
bought all the shop's caps,
taking away dozens of the
blue and white headgear.

A new order has since been placed. The caps are priced from £7.99.

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Suspended sentence for energy fraud Attempted

A FRAUDSTER who claimed he could get compensation from energy companies but pocketed people's cash has been given a suspended jail term. Shaun Morris received jail term. Shaun Morris received £34,000 from 310 people across the West Midlands.

He was handed £100 to £150 each time after saying he could get un-realistic amounts of cash back from big suppliers on a 'no win, no fee'

basis after putting adverts in newspapers. But the 45 year-old kept the money and was aggressive to some customers when they wanted to pull out, Stafford Crown Court was told.

Morris pleaded guilty to three counts of fraud by false representation, two counts of engaging in aggressive commercial practices and one of engaging in unfair practice between September 2012 and Oc-

Mr Tony Watkin, prosecuting, said Energy Compensation Bureau had been established by Morris in Stafford in 2012, but he had no expertise or experience.

tober 2013. Morris, of Birch Road, Stone, was given a two year prison sentence, suspended for two years, and ordered to carry out 200 hours of unpaid work.

Mr Tony Watkin, prosecuting, from Dudley, who was told she could get up to £2,000. She then spoke to her energy supplier and told Morris she wanted to cancel a meeting. He then started "ranting" at her and invoiced her £65.

Mr Peter McCartney, defending, said the father-of-two who previ-ously served in the armed forces and construction industry had exagger-ated the level of compensation.

A 14-year-old schoolboy has appeared in court charged with attempted murder af-ter a man was stabbed on a Dudley bus.

charge for

schoolboy

murder

The youth, from Dudley, is accused of stabbing a 29-year-old man aboard the Number 1 bus in Burton Road on January 2.

He faces a further charge of wounding a 19-year-old woman that is related to the same incident.

At Wolverhampton Crown
Court on Friday, the boy —
who cannot be named for
legal reasons — spoke only
to confirm his name.

Custody

He was remanded in custody and is due to appear at the same court for a plea and case management hear-ing to be held on March 27.

A provisional trial date has been scheduled for June

Police are still appealing for anyone who was on the No1 bus at around 9.25pm on January 2 to contact Detective Sergeant Phil Pullinger in Force CID on 101.

Alternatively, people can call the Crimestoppers line to give information anonymously on 0800 555111.

Career call to young people

YOUNG people are being offered the opportunity to find the perfect career at a jobs fair this weekend.

Full-time positions, apprenticeships and training will all be on offer at the 'New Year New Start' event being held at Sandwell College's new sixth form centre, the former Public building, in New Street, West Brom-wich, on Saturday.

The jobs fair is aimed at pupils soon to be leaving secondary school and young people who are classed as NEETS, which is someone not in education, employment or training. ment or training.

Player's funeral

Mr Dunn, at 2.15pm.

Mr Dunn, who scored 40 goals in 143 appearances for Wolves 1941-52 and was a 1949 cup winner, died aged 91.

Entrepreneur spirit is thriving in borough

JOBSEEKERS in Dudley are among the most entrepreneurial in Britain after the borough came eighth for the number of new business

start-ups in towns and cities.
Figures from the Department for Work and Pensions showed jobseekers set up 640 new businesses with help from the government's New Enterprise

Campaign to

halt abuse

of children

THE four Black Country authorities have united in a bid to fight child sexual exploitation through a new

campaign. The Midlands-wide See

The Midlands-wide See Me, Hear Me campaign has aimed to raise the profile of this crime and help keep children safe. Featuring the message 'Memories last a lifetime...

Memories last a lifetime... Everyone has memories of their first love, but for some they won't be happy ones', it aims to highlight the horrific crime and its lifelong impact on victims.

The campaign was launched by Sandwell, Dudley, Wolverhampton, was launched to Sandwell, Dudley, Wolverhampton, was launched by Sandwell, Dudley, Wolverhampton, was launched by Sandwell, Dudley, Wolverhampton, was launched by Sandwell, San

and other partners, to raise

Sandwell councillor

Sandwell councillor Simon Hackett, who is in charge of children's ser-vices, said: "Child sexual exploitation is an appalling crime and we need to pro-tect our children from the perpetrators of this abuse."

Anyone who is concerned

perpetrators of this abuse.
Anyone who is concerned
about the safety of a child
should call West Midlands
Police on 101, speak in
confidence to Barnardo's
on 0121 359 5333 or in an
emergency call 999.

Allowance (NEA), which provides tailored support for benefit claimants through 700 Jobcentre

through 700 Jobcentre Plus offices.

This number meant Dudley finished ahead of Manchester, which had 590 businesses and Doncaster on 570. Neighbouring Birmingham came second in the table with 1,080 entrepressure while to also preneurs, while top place went to Liverpool, which boasted 1,140 start-ups. The figures were wel-

boasted 1,140 start-ups.
The figures were welcomed by David Sparks, leader of Dudley Borough Council, who said: "This is good news and it verifies our attempt over the years to encourage young entrepreneurs. We pioneered a partnership with the Prince's Youth Business Trust."

More than 450 new businesses have been set up

More than 450 new businesses have been set up every week over the last year thanks to the NEA, which helps people on benefits become their own boss. The NEA helps jobseekers, lone parents and people on sickness benefits set up their own business.

The scheme has helped

The scheme has helped set up over 60,000 new businesses, with help from a mentor and financial support payable through a weekly allowance.

weekly allowance.
As part of the Government's long-term economic plan to create jobs by backing small business and enterprise, the NEA has helped jobseekers of all ages.
More than 4,000 young people, 11,000 disabled people and 14,000 over-50s have been helped to turn their

been helped to turn their hobbies into businesses.

Help plea to scrap dealers



Help needed to clear site - project manager Mick Freer in the historic garder

UP TO

50% OFF

ALL BLINDS

VOLUNTEERS restoring an 18th century walled garden are looking for scrap metal dealers to assist them

dealers to assist them

The group is clearing the grade one-listed garden at Leasowes Park in Halesowen after taking ownership last year. They want to restore the garden to its former beauty and then reopen it to the public by the summer. But face clearing six unwanted green houses, a huge metal boiler and two cabins. Group leader Mick Freer is asking for help. He said: "We're looking for some

Concept

friendly scrap metal dealers who can come in and take away the buildings, green-houses and boiler. They are too big for us to dismantle but I'm sure they would be worth competition to a green dealer.

something to a scrap dealer."

The team have launched a Leasowes The team have launched a Leasowes Walled Garden Appeal and are searching for sponsors. Members are spending their free time clearing up the site, which had been targeted by vandals. It was last used by Birmingham Metropolitan College but has been unused for several years.

THE funeral of Wolves FA Cup winner Jimmy Dunn will be held on Wednesday, January 28, at Streetly Cre-matorium, at 2.15pm.



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Visit by **Chinese** trade delegation

nese officials arrived in the Black Country this week as business leaders began forming links with the glob-al superpower.

Business and state offi-Business and state offi-cials from China were meet-ing with Sandwell Council leader Darren Cooper and Black Country Chamber of Commerce chiefs who were promoting the area's business prospects as well as major developments that are in the pipeline.

They are aiming to show the officials from the Pengzhou region there are plenty of reasons to invest and do business in Sandwell.

Business leaders show-cased Sandwell's 'excellent transport links' and recent developments such as the regeneration of West Bro-mwich town centre, new leisure centres and the £370 million Midland Metropol-itan Hospital which is ex-pected to be built by 2019.

Mr Cooper said the initial meeting was about 'opening dialogue' and further developments could be expected.

He added: "The arrival of the Chinese to Sandwell confirms our growing reputation as a place to do business for international

Hospital A&E crisis eases

THE crisis sweeping across accident and emergency departments has started to show signs of improvement. say hospital boss

Manor Hospital nosses

Manor Hospital in Walsall
and the Royal Stoke University Hospital recently downgraded their major incident
status.

New Cross in Wolver-hampton, Russells Hall in Dudley, and Sandwell Gen-eral Hospital all said their situation had become more manageable.

It comes after NHS bosses branded last week as the 'worst' they had seen in 30

Company is sold

A BAKEWARE company has been sold to a new own-ers The U Group. Samuel Groves in Station

Road, Langley Green, was part of PCS Brands group which went into administra-tion in October. Nine of 29 workers were retained with others made redundant.

EDL thugs sent to prison after violence in city

SEVERAL English Defence League sup-porters have been jailed after thuggish be-haviour in Birmingham city centre

Violence flared at a protest in July 2013 which turned the city centre into a battle-ground as pavings slabs and bottles were thrown in horrific clashes with police.

Yobs also torched a Muslim prayer cap and Pakistani flag during the disorder in the city's main entertainment district, around Broad Street and Centenary Square.

Operations were conducted across the

People were arrested from as far afield as West Sussex and Tyne and Wear, having travelled to the West Midlands to take part in the demonstration. Six defendants came from the Black Country.

Message

Superintendent Richard Baker said: "Violence has no place on the streets of Birmingham, regardless of motivation or

whatever cause people are supporting. This should send a clear message to those who are intent on coming to the West Midlands to cause trouble — we will not tolerate such behaviour.

Among those sentenced was Jake Hill, aged 32, of Church Street, Stourbridge, who was jailed for 22 months. A court hearing last month heard how he pushed a policeman and was part of crowd which attacked four officers trapped between two vans.

Lee Joshua, 43, of St Marys Court, Brier-

ley Hill, received a 16 month sentence. He was said to have been at the forefront of attempts to break through police lines.

Thomas Wilkie, 23, of Kent Road in Wednesbury was jailed for 18 months after kicking out at a police officer.

Also sentenced were Mark Connor, 25, of Tantara Stree, Walsall, who received 22 months in prison; John Warrender, 28, of Oakdale Close, Oldbury, got 15 months; James Olley-Shields, 22, of Hanbury Hill, Stourbridge, was jailed for 12 months

American terror pundit's donation after Brum gaffe

icule on social media after describing Birmingham as a no-go area for non-Muslims has donated £500 to the city's children's hospital.

Steven Emerson made the payment after issuing a string of apologies to British media outlets over

error' during a weekend broadcast on Fox News. Billed as an 'expert' on terrorism-related issues,

rerrorism-related issues, Mr Emerson was widely mocked by Twitter users after informing Fox viewers that Birmingham was 'totally Muslim' and was not visited by people of other faiths.

Mr Emerson is also from a superficient of the control of the

Mr Emerson is also facing an on-line petition calling for him to make an on-air apology in America, which has attracted more than 3.500 signatures

3,500 signatures.

In a statement confirming that it had accepted a donation from Mr Emerson, a spokesman for Birmingham Children's Hospital Charities said: "The money he has donated will go towards improving the lives of thousands of patients and their families who are treated at families who are treated at our hospital each year."

'Idiot'

Prime Minister David Cameron called Mr Emerson a 'complete idiot' and said he should visit Birmingham to see it for himself

his 'terrible, inexcusable

By Daniel Wainwright

Talking about Islam in Britain, Mr Emerson had said that 'there are actual cities like Birmingham that are totally Muslim, where non-Muslims just simply don't go in', while appearing on the Fox News channel.

His comments were broadcast live on the net-work to households around the globe and were not questioned by Fox's anchor woman during the inter-

He also claimed London had 'Muslim religious po-lice' that beat up anyone not wearing 'religious Mus-lim etting' lim attire'

Twitter users were quick to ridicule the broadcast with the hashtag #Fox-NewsFacts as they joked Fox News might think Sel-fridges in the Bullring — re-named by some the Kabul Ring — or the BT tower were mosques.

comedians Al Murray and Sanjeev Bhaskar joined in along with Black Sabbath bass player Geezer Butler.

Man facing murder charge

A 32-year-old man has appeared in court charged with the murder of Baljit Singh, found in the basement of a house in Beeches Road, Rowley Regis, on New Year's Day. Mr Singh, aged 50, had been missing since December 23 from his home in Birmingham. Stuart Millership, of Beeches Road, is accused of killing Mr Singh. He appeared at Wolvebareta Crear Court Let. verhampton Crown Court last week and was remanded in custody to appear at the same court on April 1



Tradition ends - Cook Shop owner Nigel Brazier with senior sales assistant Diane Cooper

One of a kind' shop has shut

FROM traditional faggots to bread and butter pudding, The Cook Shop served up Black Country favourites Black Country favourites for 125 years. But following the shop's

But following the shop's closure, retiring owner Nigel Brazier has sold the family business base in Halesowen Road in Old Hill.

The store now looks set to be next turned into a dental laboratory after plans were approved by Sandwell Council this week.

The shop's demise brings an end to the traditional business, which Mr Brazier had hoped would continue. He had appealed for someone to take over but received little interest. ceived little interest.

ceived little interest.

The 65-year-old, who closed the shop in August, said: "The store was profitable and many people depended on it. We were one of a kind. But we couldn't find anyone to take over, it was a massive shame and the final week was emotional with many long-time customers pleading for us to remain open.

open.
"I'm afraid it shows a change in the times. Peochange in the times. Peo-ple no longer want to run a shop, work the long hours and take the responsibility, it's sad really. Nine people worked at the

shop

NEWS IN BRIEF

Aldi chocolate in salmonella recall

ALDI has issued a product recall after salmonella was found in a batch of chocolate on sale in stores.

The supermarket chain is recalling its 200g packs of Choceur Treasures with a best before date of September 1 2015.

Salmonella was detected in one batch of the product, which consists of hazelnut wrapped in waffle and milk chocolate. The batch has been on sale in Aldi stores in the Midlands only.

The Food Standards Agency say Aldi is advising customers not to eat the chocolate.

Pantomime time at Cornbow Hall

A THEATRE group from Halesowen are gearing up for their annual panto-

Startime Varietyare per-forming Robin Hood and the Babes In The Wood at Halesowen's Cornbow Hall from January 28 to 31. The pantomime has been written and produced by

written and produced by Mike Clifford.

Tickets range in price from £9 to £12 and are available from 07901 055685 or via the website at www.startimevariety.

add three to team

A CARE home provid-er which has sites in the Black Country has added three new members to its senior management team.

HC One, which operates both Roxburgh House and Trinity House in Cradley Heath, said the appoint-ments of Bruce McLernon, John Ransford and Richard Jones would bring 'exten-sive experience and exper-

Bungalows and terrace project

AN application to build seven homes along a main road in Halesowen has been lodged with planners. Five terraced homes and

two bungalows could be built in Stourbridge Road near the roundabout lead-

near the roundabout lead-ing onto Earls Way. Q Homes said the de-velopment would provide 'much-needed, good-qual-ity housing stock'.

Club is hit again

HALESOWEN Town FC has been hit by a second break-in in five months as thieves made off with £1,000 worth of grass cutting equipment last week—when fans are raising cash to revamp The Grove.









THE BEST OF

CHOP down laurels. Chop down apple tree. Chop down hydrangeas. Burn the lot in the brazier. Slash, hack burn, burn, burn. Gardening. It's a man thing. But only in

A FEW days ago I wrote about the curious veil of silence which has descended on the Scottish bin-lorry tragedy. Six people were killed on December 22 when the lorry careered along the pavements of Glasgow. Yet all has gone very quiet. The city council says it will never identify the lorry driver or crew. Now, a senior Scottish lawyer says it could be years before the bereaved and injured are told what happened. He condemns Scotland's fatal-accident inquiry process as flawed and "bordering on inhumane." So far, no decision has even been taken on whether an inquiry will be held. You might imagine that Scots would be demanding answers to this appalling national tragedy. But the majority of comments I can find online insist the authorities know best and all will be sorted out eventually. I can only conclude that folk have more faith in their lords and masters north of the border than we have down here.

BACK in August I asked, in my cynical old way, whether William Pooley, the Ebola nurse, would feature in the New Year Honours List for risking his life to save the lives of others - "or does he have to sing pop songs, row a boat or ride a bike very fast as well?" In fact Pooley got nothing. Honours went to an actress who can impersonate Cilla Black, a fashion designer who invented the mini skirt 50 years ago, and to Joan Collins, presumably for being Joan Collins for all these years. Fine priorities, eh?

IN last Wednesday's Thought for the Day (Radio 4) an Anglican bishop, Nick Baines, delivered a little homily, condemning protests in Germany against "the Islamisation of the West." He asked: "Why is it that in such matters, perception is so much more powerful than reality? Why is it that the fires of fear are so easy to stoke?" Five hours later Islamist gunmen burst into the offices of a satirical magazine and slaughtered a dozen Parisians. You were saying, Bishop . . .?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Up to 500 helped by crime-fighting effort

have taken part in a project to combat crime. People were given crime fighting tips.

It was all part of a project aiming tools. It was all part of a project aiming to deter criminals from stealing prized goods. Sandwell Council, in partnership with West Midlands Police, gave hundreds of council tenants the chance to mark their valuables with the innovative SmartWater.

SmartWater consists of a unique forensic solution that can be registered to the home with a set of warning

Items marked with SmartWater can be traced back to the address by the police as part of the scheme to deter thieves.

The resident, assisted by a Sandwell Council neigh-bourhoods officer, paints a small amount of the invisible solution onto their most valuable and treasured

Initiative

They then display the warning signs in prominent position around their home. Sandwell Council purchased 500 kits, at the request of the police, as part of an 'invest to save' initiative during the Safer 6 campaign. paign. These kits were then

given out free to residents in Sandwell to help them combat burglaries. Inspector Mohammed

By Andrew Turton

Hanif, from Sandwell Police, said: "Targeting burglars is a priority for us and we hope that the use of the liquid solution will help us

inquid solution will help us stay one step ahead of crim-inals.

"When we seize property as part of our investigations, we always search it for secu-

we aways search it for security markings such as this special fluid.

"This means we're able to prove that the valuables found on suspects isn't

"This helps put them before the courts and then return the items to the rightful owner when justice is done.

is done."
The Safer 6 campaign ran through six towns in the borough aiming to tackle problem issues facing individual communities and

neighbourhoods.

A wide range of crimes and issues around anti-social behaviour were tackled.

Wolves saviour Sir Jack dies



owner and chairman of Wol-verhampton Wanderers FC,

verhampton Wanderers FC, Sir Jack Hayward OBE, has died aged 91.

After buying the club for £2.1 million in 1990, it is estimated he spent more than £70 million of his own fortune helping to fund the current Molineux Stadium.

Present owner Steve Morgan said: "Wolves are a family and we are united in morning at the loss of one of the club's and the city's most cherished sons."

most cherished sons."
Sir Jack was born in Wolverhampton and educated at Stowe School. During the Second World War, he joined the Royal Air Force, receiving flight training in Florida. He served first as a Pilot Officer in Royal Air Force 671 Squadron S.E. Asia Command in India and was demobilised as a Flight was demobilised as a Flight Lieutenant.

Sir Jack took over his fa-Sir Jack took over his ta-ther's business interests in the Bahamas, and contin-ued to play an active role in Freeport, where the Sir Jack Hayward High School is named after him. He died in Fort Lauderd-ale, Florida, on Tuesday.

Learner driver in 11-mile car chase

A LEARNER driver led police on an 11-mile high-speed chase after officers tried to stop him.

Jordan Ricketts hurtled through red traffic lights, went round a traffic island the wrong way and mounted the pavement in a bid to get away, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Crown Court was told.

The 21-year-old, who had three passengers as he reached speeds of 60mph, was halted when police used a 'stinger' to burst the front tyres of his Renault Clio. Mr Matthew Brook, prosecuting, said the 16-minute pursuit started when he raced away from officers who had indicated he should pull over near the Merry Hill Centre on November 12.

Mr Simon Hanns, defend-

Centre on November 12.

Mr Simon Hanns, defending, revealed that Ricketts had owned the £1,000 car for a year without a full licence. Mr Hanns added: "He acted out of sheer panic." Ricketts, of St Georges Road, Dudley, admitted dangerous driving and having no licence and no insurance. He was given an 18-month prison sentence suspended under supervision for two years and ordered to do 150 hours unpaid work. His car has been seized.

Judge Amjad Nawaz said:

Judge Amjad Nawaz said: "This was extremely foolish behaviour. It is down to good fortune that no damage or injury was caused by your driving."

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Council's app is a download **success**

MORE than 1,000 people have downloaded a mobile phone app which lets them report concerns to Dudley Council.

Council.

Dudley Council's application, which was first made
available in November, allows residents to send in pictures of potholes, dumped
rubbish, faulty street lights
and graffiti. The app also
lets council house tenants lets council house tenants

send in pictures with reports of repairs they require. Councillor Stuart Turner, cabinet member for finance and information and comand information and com-munication technology at Dudley Council, said: "The app is just one of the chan-nels we have introduced to ensure that contacting the council is as easy and con-venient as possible.

Bus

"We're very pleased that it has been received so well and we hope even more people will continue to download it and make the most of the services it offers."

The app, created as part of the council's Love Your Community campaign, also keeps residents updated with bus and train times.

The app can be downloaded via the App Store for iPhone or the Google Play Store on Android phones. "We're very pleased that

Store on Android phones

People with Sky and Virgin can use the Looking Local service on their TV to stay in touch with the council.

Council apologise for the unexpected closure of hall

shows at Dudley Town Hall were postponed because the venue must remain closed until late March.

The venue has been shut because of urgent repairs

The venue has been shut because of urgent repairs required to the ceiling. Rearranged dates have been announced for All Star Superslam Wrestling, Soul Survivors, The Good Old Days of Music Hall and veteram comedy star Ken Dodd. The Stand Up for Tommy Mundon hospice fundraiser (see front) and Shine Concert have both been moved to Brierley Hill Civic Hall. Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: "Our contractors have made an initial inspection of the work that needs doing and have advised us the hall needs to close until the end been moved to October 29.

The Soul Survivors gig
has been moved from February 21 to December 5 and
The Good Old Days of Variety, originally scheduled for
March 3, is now on October
13. Comedy veteran Ken
Dodd had been due to appear at the venue on March
7 but his show will now take
place on June 20 instead.
The Tommy Mundon
memorial concert has been
moved to Brierley Hill Civic
Hall on February 17, as has
the Shine concert on February 24. needs to close until the end of March.

Inconvenience

"We have continued to work with groups and show organisers booked into Dud-ley Town Hall to find alternative venues or change scheduled dates wherever

"We apologise to people for any inconvenience during this unforeseen but essential work.

Loose plaster on the ceiling of Dudley Town Hall needs to be fixed.

needs to be fixed.

The first show to be re-arranged is the Superslam

Vampire the bull moo-ves onto the farm



Stockman Wayne Vale with the farm's six-year-old Hereford breeding bull named Vampire

VAMPIRE, the five-year-old Hereford breeding bull, has a busy time ahead of him as Forge Mill Farm's resident breeding bull.

The fully working farm in Sandwell Valley, West Bromwich, bought Vampire five weeks ago and he will stay for the foreseeable future, with 45 cows to keep him company. Stockman Wayne Vale

from West Bromwich said:
"He is a great bull. Some
can be a little bit difficult
but he has a really nice temperament.

"He isn't happy when you take him away from the la-dies though."

Quarantine

Vampire arrived at the Vampire arrived at the farm last month and spent the last few weeks in quarantine, which is a common practice when an animal comes from another farm..

"Vampire comes from a long line of breeding bulls so that is where his strange name came from," Mr Vale

"The heifers seem to like him. He has got quite a few potential partners

NEWS IN BRIEF

Team GB star is an inspiration

STUDENTS have been inspired during a talk by a sports stars who took a leading role in the Invictus

a spot a stan with took a games.

Adam Nixon, who is a member of the Team GB Wheelchair Basketball squad, came to speak to students at Halesowen College.

The college hosted an inspire' week for students to get them interested in sports and careers in the industry.

Adam, aged 31, from Hereford, was the wheelchair basketball captain at the Invictus Games and a Pride of Britain Winner

at the Invictus Games and a Pride of Britain Winner this year.

He served in the Royal Artillery for nine years before suffering serious in-juries whilst on his second tour of duty in Iraq.

Learning more about courses

PUPILS and parents will get the chance to find out more about studying at University Technical Col-leges (UTC) in the Black

Country. UTCs are aimed at 14 UTCs are aimed at 14 to 18-year-olds. The curriculum is delivered with a local university and dedicates at least 40 per cent of time to its chosen technical specialism. On Saturday Health Futures UTC will be at Central Sixth in West Bromwich between 10am and 2pm as part of the Connexions Fair. The University of Wolverhampton's Walsall Campus hosts an event on January 24. an event on January 24, 10.30am to 3.30pm



ary 24. Jesson's CE Primary School's festive choral con-cert had to be called off because organisers were un-

able to find an alternative venue at short notice Bookings for the banquet-ing suite are unaffected by

the work.

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IN MY VIEW

KATIE Hopkins, the one-time Apprentice candidate who now plies her trade trying to offend as many people as she possi-bly can with vitriolic comments on Twitter, surely hit a new low with her diatribe about Pauline

who contracted Ebola after taking part in an aid mission to help sufferers in Sierra Leone.

Whatever one's views of the mission, the risks involved, or the screening process for peo-ple returning from Sierra Leone, referring to somebody whose life is in grave danger as a "sweaty Glaswegian Ebola bomb" is surely beyond the pale.

And, I would venture to sug-

gest, a nurse who has put her life on the line to help save others, demonstrates far more courage than somebody whose main claim to fame is appearing on a television reality show and mak-ing snide remarks about northern car salesmen.

Nevertheless, I'm totally with Hopkins when she says the police should have better things to do than become embroiled in the row about her online bile.

Defend

Detective Inspector Glyn Roberts of Police Scotland said: "Inquiries are ongoing into the nature of these tweets and to es-

tablish any potential criminality."
What? Inquiries are ongoing?
Her rant consisted of 19 words. How long does it take to investigate that?

And how can there possibly

be any criminality in a few rude words about the Scots' propensity to perspire?

Hopkins has hit back, saying

'the freedom to say only things that are polite is no real freedom

that are polite is no real freedom of speech at all', and while it pains me to say it, the old trout has hit the nail on the head.

The French philosopher Voltaire famously said: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it"

And the police – not to men-tion the 'hundreds' of people who complained about her

who complained about her tweets – would do well to take that on board.

Most right-thinking people will disapprove of what Hopkins has

to say on many things.

She makes her living trying gain people's disapproval, and of course they play right into her hands every time they rise to the

bait.
But if we really do value the freedom of speech which we have taken for granted for centu-ries, we must all defend her right to be rude and unpleasant.

Det Insp Roberts should have told the hundreds of complainants to get a life - and then in structed his officers to catch some real criminals instead.



Mr Dury holds a find while looking over the site of the dig



The Webb Corbett Factory and cone in the 1940s



Through looking glass into the past

Stourbridge was at the centre of the glass industry, CHARLIE BENTON looks at relics recently found

DEDICATED volunteers have spent hours sifting through tons of soil to uncover an array of hidden gems from Stourbridge's glass industry herit-

An eight-month long excavation on the site of the Ruskin Mill Glasshouse College has unearthed examples of glassware dating back hun-

ples of glassware dating back hundreds of years and evidence of two of the region's earliest furnaces.

Now some of the window glass, bottles, tiles, cut lead crystal and carriage lantern lenses which have been dug up will be going on public display.

Stourbridge was once the epicentre of the UK's glass-making industry, renowned the world over for its high-quality disas products since the early 1600s.

ity glass products since the early 1600s.

The remains of furnaces discovered The remains of turnaces discovered at the site would have been in the shape of distinctive cones similar to the Red House Glass Cone that stands in nearby Wordsley. Such glass cones once dominated the skyline of the area. The two found at the Ruskin site date back to

1691 and 1692 respectively.

The site forms part of The Glasshouse, formally known as the Ruskin Glass Centre, which serves as a working homage to the glass trade.

The dig was carried out by volunteers as well as 90 students from the college in Wollaston Road with special educational

Among the items uncovered are bottles which date back to the 1700s, decorative

glass from the 1850s and clay pipes. Glass heritage director at the college Ian Dury, aged 61, of Kinver, said: "It has been amazing and what we have dis-



Glass Heritage Officer Ian Dury with finds from the college dig in Stourbridge

covered is a time capsule of glass making on the site for the past 400 years so we really did find all sorts of things, from windows to bottles

Condition

"Although of course a lot of the pieces were shattered, the glass itself was in very good condition as once it is under-ground it stays quite stable."

Many pieces will now be put on dis-

Mr Dury said: "We had archaeolog-ical and glass specialists take a look

at what we found and they were very impressed. Although we put a lot of it back, there were a lot of pieces that will be kept. Some of it will be sent to mu-seums and some of it will be kept at the

seums and some of it will be kept at the college itself.

"In May we will be holding a special international glass festival and it would be great to display it then."

He added: "We found lots of window the condition of the con

glass, lots of pieces of bottles and tiles and decorative glass.

"Anything that can be made in glass has been made here for 420 years. The

first cones were built in 1691 and 1692 and then they built another cone on top of it. "The main facility was built in the

"The main facility was built in the 1930s. It has constantly been in use as a glass making facility for 400 years.
"It is a timeless art, the same equipment that was used then is still used

today."
Mr Dury, originally from South Wales,

Mr Dury, originally from South Wales, said he has been working in the glass industry for almost 50 years. He said: "It was absolutely fantastic to be a part of the dig. The funding we received from English Heritage and the National Lottery allowed us to do a lot of research to find out just what we were digring un.

digging up "There were over 16 glass cones in the

"There were over 16 glass cones in the area alone at one stage and it has enriched the area so much."

Ruskin Mill stands on the site of the former Webb Corbett glassworks which operated between 1913 and 1969.

It was taken over by Royal Doulton which operated until it was sold in 1999 to the Ruskin Mill trust.

to the Ruskin Mill trust.

Mr Dury has paid tribute to the work of volunteers who turned out to help. He said: "We started the dig in February last year and we had funding from English Heritage and National Lottery. "For the first couple of weeks I was tasked with finding volunteers and although I was worried initially I shouldn't have been, as we had so many people come out to help us dig.

people come out to help us dig.
"We have 90 students with special educational needs here at the college, they have absolutely loved doing it and taking

"The first two weeks was all about getting volunteers from elsewhere, I was concerned at first but the turnout was amazing. There were more than enough volunteers and other schools came out

and got involved.

"We are also interested in inviting schools to come along and take a look at what we found. The glass that was made here can be found in all sorts of places."

WEEK IN POLITICS

FOLIR million conversations are what the Labour party's leader says it must hold between now and polling day.

Between them, shadow chan-

cellor Ed Balls and shadow work and pensions secretary Rachel Reeves clocked up a few of those in Staffordshire and the Black Country this week.

Black Country this week.

With no party commanding
an overall majority in the Commons, the run-up to the May 7
General Election is going to be
something of a level playing field
between Labour and the Conservatives

servatives.
They both need to hold on to every seat they won last time and to win even more if they are to avoid another compromise-laden coalition.

mise-laden coalition.

Both are losing votes to other parties, specifically UKIP, the Greens and the SNP (north of the border, obviously).

Hence Miss Reeves layed the pare lightly are the parties.

Hence Miss Reeves played the consolidation game in Dudley North, the most marginal Labour seat in the Black Country while Mr Balls headed for Cannock Chase.

The latter was the scene of a suppolicy defect to be the search of the consolidation of the consolidati

symbolic defeat, at least in numerical terms, for Labour. It's where the Tories saw the largest swing to them in 2010.

It contains, in theory, the largest expectation of the term who

est proportion of voters who were prepared to desert one party for its arch enemy. If La-bour can win this back, it stands to reason it can win back others

In the 1990s we had Essex

In the 1990s we had Essex Man, the typical voter described as 'working class, father, electrician, right-wing, keen hanger, noisily rambunctious, no subtlety'. Then Tony Blair came up with another type of voter, the so-called Mondeo Man.

"His dad voted Labour," he said. "He used to vote Labour, too. But he'd bought his own house now. He'd set up his own business. He was doing very nicely. 'So I've become a Tory', he said. In that moment, he crystallised for me the basis of our failure. His instinct was to get on in life. And he thought our instincts were to stop him." stincts were to stop him.

In both Labour visits to the Black Country and Staffordshire, the front-benchers met apprentices. Under Mr Blair there was a drive to get half of young peo-ple into higher education. Now there's a renewed interest in ap-prenticeships to give employers the skilled workforce they need. While Mr Balls was tinkering

while Mr Bails was tinkering around on a go-kart with two student mechanics at South Staffordshire College it occurred to me that Cannock Mechanic could well determine the outcome of this election.

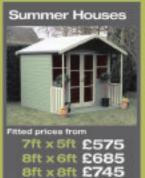
Whether it's the young voter or their parent or grandparent, all of them want to know if the younger ones are going to have a chance to get on in life, get a iob and make a contribution. The big debate will be how that happens. The parties have just un-der four months to convince us.





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umn by Peter Rhodes.

Mr Waldron can opine on anything he likes but the fact is that ten years ago a big majority of MPs voted to outlaw fox hunting. Fox hunting is nothing but barbaric blood lust practised by a small section of the population. It has nothing to do with the defence of chickens or lambs. It is purely to satisfy some people's desire for a fox to be

being butchered or a badger being baited.

Mr Rhodes, who has every right to call his

home whatever he likes, suggested it may be 'political suicide' by David Cameron to attempt to bring back hunting with animals. A poll last year suggested well over 70 percent wished the ban to be kept. Mr Waldron cent wished the ban to be kept. Mr Waldron begins his reference to the columnist as Peter Rhodes and later, rather disdainfully, as Rhodes. Not exactly good manners. S HUNT Dudley

Speeders are being punished

FURTHER to recent letters

FURTHER to recent letters criticising speeding drivers, it was a surprise to see the figure of 91,138 people caught speeding in 2014.

Maybe those drivers we see going too fast are not getting away with it after all. Interesting that since a lot of the big yellow boxes have been switched off, more offenders than ever have been caught. This proves the problem with fixed cameras that they only slow the traffic for a few yards. Now mobile cameras and unmarked cars are eras and unmarked cars are

eras and unmarkeu cars are being used.

I would say to drivers, even if you are not both-ered about road safety, it is important to realise that offence will increase your insurance costs, two offences and you will find it impossible to purchase insurance from many companies and also car hire will be difficult.

Also many jobs ask for a clean driving licence, so take it easy, save fuel, save wear on your car, and maybe even

R GWILLIAMS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial. 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

GP appointments cause A&E crisis

IS it any wonder our NHS is overwhelmed with people going to hospital accident and emergency depart-ments because they cannot get to see their GP?

To see your GP you have to be prepared to wait a fort-night because of an appoint-ment system that is just not

working. Not too long ago all people had to do when they were sick was to attend their

sick was to attend their doctor's surgery and sit and wait their turn.

Then the experts got involved and came up with the great idea of an appointment system.

All this has done is to cause a bottleneck with a fleed of particular all twing to

flood of patients all trying to get through a funnel of that bottle.

Surely it would be bet-

ter had the old systems not been deemed unfit by these so-called experts.

After all, that system worked far longer that this system we have now, which is in crisis after just a few

Not all new systems are good.

All it takes is for those who made the decision is admit they were wrong and revert to the trusted and well-tested system.

This would then free up our hospital accident and emergency departments to a workable and reliable service — one that is wanted by the general public.

P LOWE **Brierley Hill**

as vermin J B Waldron claims that the majority of the population is in favour of the repeal of the fox hunting ban. I would

like to know what he bases that assertion on. Most of the people I know have exactly the opposite opinion.

I would also like to know

how often he has lambs or chickens destroyed by foxes.

The fox is not officially classed as vermin and is part of our natural eco-sys-tem, which is more than you can say for the plague of domestic cats that live by me.

agree that we should let the people who manage our countryside chose the best way to manage 'pests' but even many of the people who enjoy fox hunting would not claim that it is a particularly efficient way if eradicating foxes

ALAN ASHMAN Sedgley

Police cars need clean up

YEARS ago, all police cars, fire engines and ambulanc-es used to be kept in a very clean condition. Nowadays, only the fire engines look presentable.

Unless a police car is to be used by a senior officer, the cars and ambulances are a

disgrace. With the number of 'hand With the number of 'hand car washes' that are now on our streets, do the police and ambulance services have any excuses? Surely someone in authority at these services can 'do a deal' if gradl care sen he weeked if small cars can be washed for about £3 and 4x4s for £6. PCOLE

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"They gave us our perfect kitchen, a great local company." Sandra Donnelly, Kingswinford

"The kitchen of our Dreams, we made so many changes but all was completed with so little fuss... I love showing off my new kitchen to everyone!! Norah & Chris Painter, Pedmore

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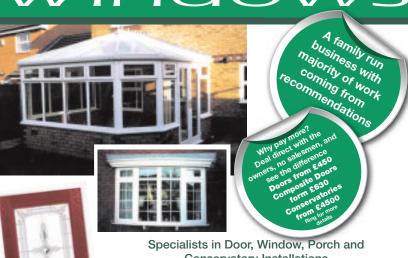
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Denis Briscoe stacking the beer ready for delivery to pubs in 1967



Andy Stokoe cleans kegs at Holden's Brewery



The offices above the bottle shop at Holden's Brewery

Brewery hails 100 years with ale trail

down the gauntlet to real ale lovers as it launches its centenary celebrations.

Holden's Brewery will chal-lenge punters to get a round in at each of its pubs across the

at each of its pubs across the Black Country. The real ale trail will begin in the spring as the Woodsetton-based brewery kicks-off a range of events to mark its 100th anniversary.

Those who complete the tour of the firm's 20 tenanted pubs will then be able to swap their completed card for Holden's centenary memorabilia. The family-run brew-ery will also host tours, starting om February.
The arrival of the brewery's cen-

tenary year comes as an expansion of the site is nearing completion. A new tank room will be com-

pleted during 2015, increasing ca-pacity at the Sedgley Road West site by 50 per cent, which bosses said had been possible thanks to a boom in the ale trade. One of the

MEMORY LANE

stops on the Holden's tour will be the Rose and Crown in Brierley Hill and landlord Mark Pritchard believes the idea will drum up interest in the area.

He said: "It's a popular brewery around here. This pub is still a busy little pub and I do think it will make a difference.

"Round here it is a real ale area, it's so popular, especially when they bring out their own monthly

ones.
"They tend to go down really well. I think the tour is a really good idea."
Francis Britton, who runs Holdens pub The Wheatsheaf, in Carter's Green, West Bromwich, believes the tour could come as a

major boost.

She said: "Anything that gets more people in is a good idea. Hopefully this can help. All pubs need more customers at the mo-

ment and anything that increases the likelihood of people coming in is good.
"Ale is a good seller, the pub is known for having real ale. Locally it does well."

it does well."

Despite the bleak outlook for
the industry in recent years which
has seen pubs continue to disappear from Black Country streets,
Holden's has been able to buck the

trend and invest in the future.
When the expansion is complete, ale production will increase from 50,000 pints a week to 75,000.

Popularity

The extension has been built at the rear of the site in George Street and will see extra fermentation tanks installed. A new bottle store was also completed in 2012.
When the plans were revealed, managing director Jonathan Holden said: "There has been a resurgence in the popularity of ales in recent time and this has been a massive benefit to us. massive benefit to us.

'This expansion is necessary for us to build on the business



Jonathan Holden in the new fermentation plant

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Nominate unsung heroes for awards



Mayor of Dudley Councillor Margaret Aston at the launch of this year's civic awards for unsung heroes

MAYOR of Dudley, Councillor Margaret Aston, is urging people to highlight the work of unsung heroes across the borough for prestigious civic awards. Community activists, inspiring teachers, entrepreneurs, athletes and environmental champions will be recognised in the Mayor's Civic Awards. People can nominate those who go above and beyond the call of duty in their communities for one of the awards but the deadline is February 9. There are six categories: the Duncan Edwards award for sport, the Cedric Hardwicke award for arts, the Frank Folev award for community spirit. the Thomas Attwood

Foley award for community spirit, the Thomas Attwood award for education, the Mike Holder award for business and the William Shenstone award for environment.

CouncillorAston said: "The Mayor's Civic Awards is a fantastic opportunity to highlight the work of the people who work tirelessly in their communities for the good of the borough"

Nominate online at dudley.gov.uk/civicawards or pick up a nomination form from libraries and leisure centres.

More are urged to have a sav on cutbacks

DUDLEY Council wants more people to have a say on the services which matter most to them, as bosses consider almost £60 million worth of cuts.

About 2,700 people have so far responded to a consultation after residents were asked to name their top five

tation after residents were a council services. The council is propos-ing savings of £22.9m for 2015/16, moving up to £25.3m by 2016/17 and £27.4m by 2017/18. But the authority has warned that a further £30m of savings will

also need to be found.

It wants to minimise their impact by focusing on the services which are seen as the least important to every-

Consultation

Councillor Stuart Turner, cabinet member for finance, said: "We would urge people to have their say in our Big Question budget consulta-tion before the closing date

tion before the closing date on January 25. "We've been really pleased with the response so far as nearly 2,700 people have already taken part but we want as many people as possible to have their say.

By Richard Guttridge

"We're having to set budgets on the back of huge cuts in our funding from central government, so we are asking the residents we serve to take a moment to let us know their top five most valued services."

most valued services."

The budget proposals so far include a shake-up of Dudley youth services to save £200,000. There are also plans to increase burial fees, turn off some street lights after midnight and reduce park maintenance.

Springer will also be mede

Savings will also be made by transferring the manage-ment of the New Bradley Hall care home in Kingswin-ford to a private firm.

People can take part by visiting www.dudley.gov.uk or by using #dudleybudget on Twitter.

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Peace sell out both 'home' gigs

WORCESTER band Peace have released their latest single, I'm A Girl, this week from their second album Happy People, which is out next month.

The quartet formed at Worcester Sixth Form College and fronted by Droitwich singer and guitarist Harry Koisser has sold out both 'homecoming' gigs at Birmingham Institute this and next Saturday. and next Saturday.

The line up is completed by Harry's brother Samuel on bass, guitarist Doug Castle and drummer Dom-inic Boyce.

inic Boyce.

The band won acclaim with debut album In Love in 2013 and last year played Reading and Leeds festival as well as touring with Bombay Bicyele Club, including a gig at Wolverhampton Civic Hall.

Steel industry is art inspiration

PAINTINGS inspired by the last years of the Black Country steel industry are on display at DudleyMuse-um and Art Gallery. From Red to Rust, which features work by Codrig

features work by Cedric Smith, runs in Gallery 3 until March 7.

Annual

Gallery 9 at the museum Gallery 9 at the museum in St James's Road, will be used for Dudley Camera Club's annual exhibition from Saturday, January 17 to February 21.

The club's presentation evening will be taking place there on February 2 at 7.30pm.

The town's museum and art gallery is open from 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday.

Probe urged into repeat Holocaus survivor calls to ambulance service

investigation into nuisance 999 calls after it emerged paramedics were called to one property in Stourbridge more than 200 times in 12 months.

West Midlands Ambulance Service was called to an address in the town 231 times for 'falls', according to details revealed Dy Androw Turton By Andrew Turton

let down by the authorities, or they are a malicious prankster. Either way there should be an investigation into the caller," said the UKIP MEP.

"Our emergency services are over stretched as it is. This kind of problem must

This kind of problem must not be tolerated as it could easily put lives at risk." The figures do not reveal specific addresses due to data protection laws. A spokesman for West Midlands Ambulance Service said: "The trust

is aware of a number of high-volume service users who regularly call the am-

disorders that, at times, redisorders that, at times, require emergency interven-tion on a regular basis.

"Although this may ap-pear to be a 'misuse' of re-sources it is indeed entirely

ing to details revealed through a Freedom of Information request. The service revealed its paramedics and ambulance crews were called out 5,000 times to the same 30 addresses in the region.

A property in Birming-ham's Shard End was vis-ited on 653 occasions with only 11 of the call-outs resulting in anyone being taken to hospital.

Headache

Of the calls, more than Of the calls, more than 400 were described as being for 'someone feeling gener-ally unwell'. In one incident, the paramedics were forced to race to the address to discover the resident merely had a headache.

West Midlands MEP Bill

bulance service.

"Some people do suffer from complex health-related

West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge, also a councillor in Dudley, urged authorities to look at the issue. "Without knowing the personal circumstances of the caller it would be unfair to make a judgement but it seems to me either the person involved has a serious health condition, in which case they have been which case they have been

Crane by name and restored them too



Steam enthusiast Len Crane, who has died aged 81, with his steam crane and a

STEAM engine enthusiast Len Crane has died at the age of 81. Mr Crane re-stored steam engines at a time when many were being dismantled.

dismantled.

He also organised popular events, including the Steam Gathering at the Black Country Living Museum.

On Sunday, following a long illness, Mr Crane passed away at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton with his wife Jane and daughter Brigitte by his side.

Mrs Crane, aged 74, said: "He was so passionate about anything which moved and

anything which moved and so talented to learn about it all himself. The work he carried out restoring the old engines was remarkable, and he made many, many friends along the way."

Mr Crane was born in Yorkshire and his family moved to West Bromwich when he was young. He attended George Salter school in West Bromwich before a scholarship to Ryland Memorial School of Art.

He had a successful 12-year career in motorbike racing which saw him crowned British Motorcross Scramble Champion in 1966 and 1967. He worked as a tool maker at Great Bridge.

Holocaust to speak at college

vived a Nazi concentration camp will be visiting Dudley to speak at the town's annu-al Holocaust commemoration event.

In 1943, Hannah Lewis and her family were marched to a labour camp in the village of Adampol in Poland.

Poland.
Hannah, now aged 77, and her father were the only members of their family to survive the eamp.
Dudley North MP Ian Austin has invited her to speak at the town's annual commemoration at the

commemoration at the Broadway Campus of Dud-

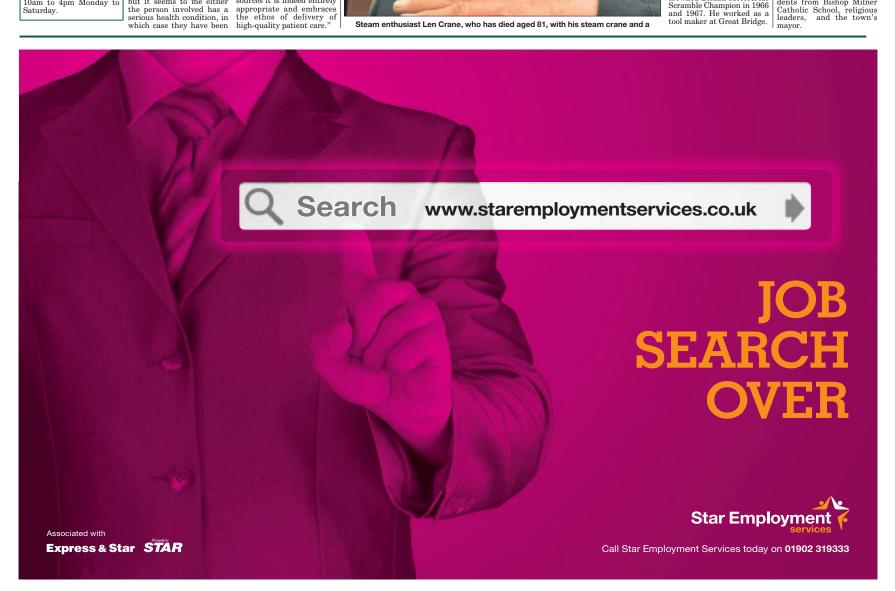
He said: "The service was really well attended last year and I hope the same can happen this year.

Privilege

"To have Hannah speak-ing at the event is a great honour. Hearing her will be a real privilege and some-thing I'm sure the veterans, residents and students in the audience will never for-get."

get."
The annual service, organised by Mr Austin and Dudley College Students' Union, has been running for seven years with the support of the Holocaust Educational Trust.
The great or Friday Jan.

The event on Friday, January 23, from 12.30pm until 1.30pm, will include students from Bishop Milner Catholic School, religious leaders, and the town's mayor. mayor.



Atomic pair form school of rock



Martin Warlow and Dan Worton, of Ned's Atomic Dustbin, tune up for their rock school in Wolverhampton

BUDDING musicians can now learn how to play instruments in true school of rock fashion. Atomic Sounds Music School has been set up by rock musicians Dan Worton and Martin Warlow, who have both been members of Stourfor a young kid who wants to pick up a guitar." Martin Warlow, who have both been members of Stourbridge band Ned's Atomic Dustbin.

The school will be giving lessons in guitar, bass, key
The school will be giving lessons in guitar, bass, key
The school will be giving lessons in guitar, bass, key
Street, Wolverhampton. Visit www.atomic-sounds.com

£3k bill for child's fit camp

help last year. The council is the only one in Birmingham and the Black Country to commission such a service. Dudley's health boss said it only happened in 'exceptional circumstances' and after necessary health checks had been carried out.

almost £3,000 sending an obese child to a fitness camp.

The unnamed child was sent for behalvet went. The owned is the call.

Sensible

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet

said. "This is about enabling a lifestyle change to prevent long term health conditions and future pressures on health services. We also provide full support to the family including nutri-tional and healthier lifestyles advice.

"Only in exceptional circumstances member for health, defended the council's spending.
"We find that tackling the issues that lead to obesity is cheaper and tollowing medical checks to identify any underlying health issues, would we take the step of referring a child to a focussed camp."

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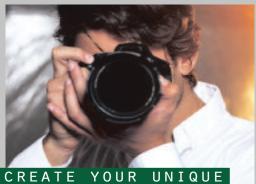
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Gatherings in public places, such as supermarket car parks, have been a bone of contention



The campaign forbids organised car cruising

Injunction putting brake on car cruis

CAR cruising will be banned across the Black Country after a ground-breaking High Court injunction was secured by Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall councils.

The injunction forbids people from participating in or promoting, organising or publicising a "car cruise" anywhere within the Black Country.

cruise" anywhere within the Black Country.
Car cruising – the act of drivers meeting on the public highway on either an organised or impromptu basis to race or show off in their cars – is noisy, dangerous and illegal.
Regular gatherings take place at a number of "hotspots" around the Black Country, where up to 250 vehicles and spectators turn local roads into a race track.
They include the Black Country Route and Birmingham New Road in Wolverhampton, Flood Street in Dudley, Bean Road Industrial Estate, Tipton, Hallens Drive, Wednesbury and Brickyard Road, Walsall, as well as public and retail car parks across the Black Country.
Local councils and the police have received hundreds of complaints about car cruising over the last few years,

of complaints about car cruising over the last few years,

ranging from vehicles and spectators obstructing highways or residential or business properties, to dangerous driving, excessive noise, littering, verbal abuse and intimidation. There have also been a number of collisions involving vehi-

There have also been a number of collisions involving veni-cles taking part in car cruises.

Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall councils, working in partnership with West Midlands Police, secured the injunction from the High Court in Birmingham last month. Anyone suspected of breaching it will be at risk of being in contempt of court, for which an adult can face up to two years in prison and a fine.

Anti-social

Speaking on behalf of the partners, Councillor Elias Mattu, Wolverhampton City Council's cabinet member for leisure and communities, said: "Car cruising has been a bone of contention for residents and businesses for many

years.
"The activities are not only wholly anti-social, but also illegal and dangerous, putting the safety of participants and spectators at risk. It's only a matter of time until someone is seriously injured or even killed.

"I am confident this ground-breaking injunction will have a positive impact on the lives of law-abiding people in Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall."

Chief Inspector Kerry Blakeman, head of West Midlands Police's Traffic unit, said: "This Black Country-wide injunction will form the backbone of our on-going measures to target people using the road as a racetrack while ensuring the safety of others.

"As well as the obvious dangers of driving at speed on urban roads, car cruising generates a lot of late-night noise nuisance for people living near key routes.

Law abiding drivers can also feel intimidated when they inadvertently find themselves in the middle of a gathering."

ing."

Councillor Mattu added: "It should be stressed that we

are not seeking to prevent legitimate car enthusiasts from enjoying their hobby.

"What we want to do is put a stop to the menace of car cruising, which is making life a misery for so many people across the Black Country."

• Anyone who witnesses a car cruise on the public highway or public place is asked to call police on 101.

Court action

1) It is forbidden for anyone to participate in "car cruising" (as defined in the schedule below) anywhere within the Claimants' combined geographical area known locally as the Black Country Area.

2) It is also forbidden for anyone to promote, organise, or publicise via e-mail, the internet or any publica-tion or broadcast, any "car cruising" within the defined geographical area.

3) A power of arrest pursuant to section 27 Police and

Criminal Justice Act 2006 shall apply to clause 1 above.
4) The order and power of arrest shall continue for 3 years following the commencement of this order or until it is varied or discharged by the court. This order shall come into effect at midnight on 2 February 2015 provid-ed that the Claimants have completed certain steps. It shall, subject to further order, expire at midnight 1 Feb ruary 2018.

5) Personal service of this injunction is dispensed with pursuant to rule 81.8 of the Civil Procedure Rules.

Schedule

 "Car Cruising" means two or more motor vehicles (including motorbikes) between the hours of 3pm and 7am being on a highway or in a publicly accessible place within the Black Country Area at which any such vehicle or occupant of a vehicle performs any of the pro-hibited activities listed in clause 3 below which causes or is capable of causing, any of the prohibited consequences set out in clause 4 below.

2) "Participating in car cruising" means being the driv-er of, or being carried in (or on), a motor vehicle (includ-ing motorbikes) in circumstances in which paragraph 1 above applies.

3) The prohibited activities referred to in clause 1 above are: speeding; driving in convoy; racing; performing stunts; sounding horns/playing music as to cause a significant public nuisance; using foul or abusive language; using threatening, intimidating behaviour towards another person; and causing obstruction on a

public highway, whether moving or stationary.

4) The prohibited consequences referred to in clause a) the profiled consequences relief to the class of above are: excessive noise; danger or risk of injury to road users (including pedestrians); damage or significant risk of damage to property; significant risk of harm; significant public nuisance; and significant annoyance to the public.

The full injunction and map showing the geographical area is available at http://bit.ly/carcruisingban and council offices.









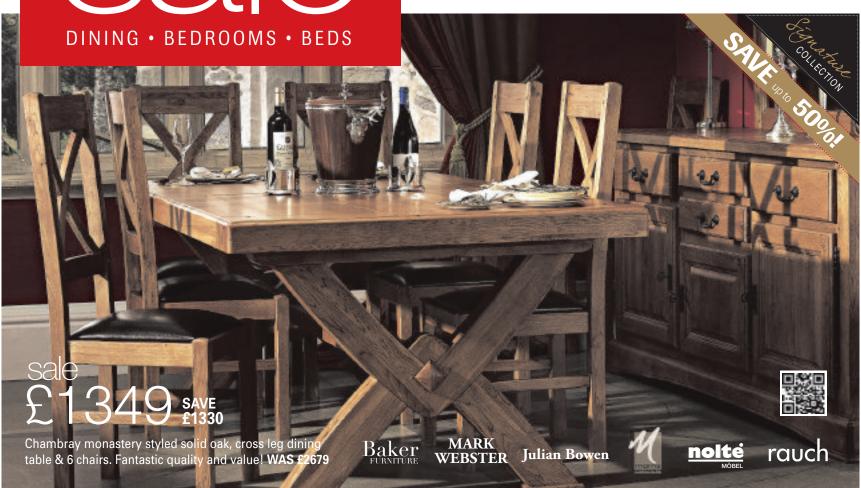




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14 NEWS IN BRIEF

Tributes flood in for Albion coach

for Albion coach
TRIBUTES have been
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legend Albert McPherson,
who has died aged 87.
A West Bromwich Albion coach for 20 years, Mr
McPherson was previously
a centre-back at Walsall in
the 1950s and 60s, making
367 appearances for the
Saddlers after signing in
1954. He was captain during the back-to-back promotions of 1960 and '61.
Former club secretary
Roy Whalley, who was a
young supporter during
McPherson's playing days,
described him as the 'perfect role model'.
"He was dedicated to his
profession and a superb
ambassador for the club,"
said Mr Whalley. "We have
lost one of the great servants of Walsall Football
Club."

Morrissey arena show on the way

FORMER Smiths front-man Morrissey has an-nounced plans for his first solo tour in four years which is coming to the West Midlands.

Which is coiming to the West Midlands.

The singer, who penned a highly acclaimed autobiography, is known as member of The Smiths in the 1980s. But the 55-year-old has since forged his own solo career with his tour arriving at Birmingham Barclaycard Arena on May 27. His latest album World Peace Is None Of Your Business was released last year.

ear. Tickets for Morrissey's Tickets for Morrissey's tour go on sale today (Friday) at 10am. They are priced at £51.33 and £73.83, plus fees, available from www.theticketfactory.com or 0844 338 8000.

Hundreds of extra officers House sharing are to combat sex crimes

POLICE have bolstered the number of officers tackling sex crimes across the West Midlands as it emerged the region is a hot

spot for sexual predators.

Wolverhampton has the second highest rate of convicted sex offenders per person in the entire country with 377 convicted criminals living in the city.

By Rob Golledge

are 172 sex offenders — an average which is narrowly lower than the highest rate in the country, which is in 174 per 100,000.

Wolverhampton South East MP Pat McFadden said: "I am sure this information will concern the public and the question I have to ask is why does Wolverhampton have one of the highest rates?

"What is absolutely paramount is that the police and where they live and that they are actively protecting the public of the public and that they are actively protecting the public of the public and that they are actively protecting the public of the public of

they are actively protecting the public."

team of specialist officers that work with probation and partner agencies to manage sex offenders."
Across England and Wales, police and probation are currently monitoring 46,102 registered sex offenders. Latest figures show there are 2,521 sex offenders in the West Midlands.
For every 100,000 people in Wolverhampton, there are 172 sex offenders—are 172 sex offenders—are are 172 sex offenders—an average which is narrowly

with 377 convicted crimins. Figures show there are also high numbers of sex offenders elsewhere in the Black Country, with 348 in Sandwell, 315 in Walsall and 293 in Dudley.

There are more than 1,000 sex offenders living in Birmingham and 893 in Staffordshire.

West Midlands Police Chief Constable Chris Sims has now added 275 officers to its Public Protection Unit—the department that deals with sex offences—with a total 793 police officers with 50 civilian staff.

Commitment

Chief Inspector Michaela Kerr, said: "West Midlands Police recently expanded its Public Protection Unit with 275 additional officers join-

275 additional officers joining the team.

"The number of officers working in Public Protection now accounts for around 10 per cent of the force's total strength, that's a clear indication of our commitment to supporting victims of sex crime, safeguarding vulnerable people, and ensuring offenders face justice.

justice. "We have a dedicated



Plain cooking is recipe for long life

Gladys Davis, who has celebrated her 100th birthday, thanks traditional plain cooking for her long life

A HEARTY meal on the table after a day's work is the secret to a long and happy life, according to Halesow-en-born Gladys Davis, who has cele-brated her 100th birthday.

In an age when many people rely on takeaways and microwave meals, Mrs Davis says a good meal is vital for one's health.

Mrs Davis, who lived independently until last year, marked her milestone birthday at Edmore Care Home in

She received a card from the Queen

and had a small party with her family. She said: "The secret to long age? A good meal on the table when you get back from work, and good old plain cooking. It's kept me healthy."

Button Mrs Davis was born in Halesowen to Matthew and Martha, who were independent nailmakers. She went to Halesowen Primary School, before leaving to briefly work at James Grove & Sons Ltd button factory. Later she returned to the school to

work as a dinner lady for more than 20 years.

She married her husband Vernon at St Mary's Church in Halesowen and lived in Hill Street in the town.

The couple had one child called Terrance. Mrs Davis has two grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Ann Newton, care manager at Edmore Care Home, said: "Gladys is a

lovely lady. She has got a dry sense of humour, she likes a laugh and a joke, and she isn't scared to tell you what she wants. We all love her very much."

scheme for under-35s

A SCHEME helping young people find a home has been launched in Dudley.

A new shared housing programme will be trialled in central Dudley and Lower Gornal, tailored to the needs of young people aged 18 to 35. Dudley Council is running the pilot scheme in 35. Dudley Council is run-ning the pilot scheme in partnership with Black Country Housing Group and Churches Houses Associa-tion of Dudley and District.

Self-contained rooms will be available in shared houses for young people. They will be provided with their own private bedroom with an en-suite bathroom. bed and small fridge. Some may also have a microwave may also h and kettle.

and kettle.

The rest of the house will be shared with other tenants, who will have a shared kitchen and in some cases a garden. A selection process will also look at lifestyle preferences and things such as working hours and sleeping patterns to match potential residents.

Housing boss Councillor Gaye Partridge said: "We have developed this shared

Housing boss Councillor Gaye Partridge said: "We have developed this shared housing option specifically for young people to test the market. If it proves a suc-cess we may look to roll the scheme out across Dudley borough." borough.

To qualify for the shared houses people must meet and agree to share with the other selected residents. They must be aged between 18 and 35 and have lived or worked in Dudley borough for the last two years.

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Memorial window is to be put back on display



rry Daniels and Lynn Paynter, from Langley History Society, with a memorial window panel from the church

A FIRST World War memowhich has spent nearly a decade in a garage will again become a focal point at Langley after campaigners

secured funding.

The stained glass three-panel window is the only memorial listing the names of the 64 men from

the Langley area who lost their lives during the Great War. It was installed in St Michael and All Angels Church, in Causeway Green Road, Langley Green, in 1921 but had

to be removed when the church, which had been closed since 2006, was sold and redeveloped.

and redeveloped.

The memorial was removed and stored in a garage in Smethwick, leading to uncertainty over its future while a new home was sought.

But after the Zion United Reformed Church, which is only around 100 yards away from the church in which it stood for so long, said it would be happy to take the memorial, a campaign was launched to raise enough money so it could be restored and safely displayed in its new home.

The Langley Local History Society

has now been told a bid for Lottery Heritage Funding has been successful and is to receive £9,300.

and is to receive £9,300.

The group's chairman Dr Terry Daniels said: "We are delighted to have been awarded this grant which secures the future of the window.

"It was originally bought through a public appeal and therefore belongs to the people of Langley, so it is important it remains here."

The window is currently being and the same an

tant it remains here."

The window is currently being restored and it is hoped it will be in place by April. Grant money that is left over will be used for a booklet and exhibition on the men who lost their lives.





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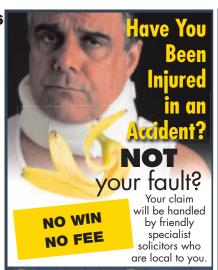
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Football club face £30k bill to return

WORK to revamp Darlaston Town Football Club's old dilapidated home will cost around £30,000, bosses have revealed.

The club has taken over Bentley

The club has taken over Bentley Leisure Pavilion, but hopes to return to its original City Ground.
Renamed Darlaston Town (1874)
FC, the resurrected team won a sixmonth licence from Walsall Council to manage and run the Bentley sports and social club venue until June 30.

and social cub venue until June 30.
The team currently shares a
ground in Bentley Road South with
Red Star Alma FC. The City Ground,
in Waverley, Road, Darlaston, had
been Darlaston's home until the club
folded in 2013.

Disrepair

Club chairman Neil Chambers said: "The council recently gave us access to assess the state of The City

access to assess the state of the City Ground.

The external fencing and stand has been in a state of disrepair for many years but it is now in a very sorry state. The clubhouse has been many years but it is now in a very sorry state. The clubhouse has been vandalised and will need significant refurbishment and modernisation, as will the dressing rooms. The playing surface has not been maintained.
"Preliminary estimates suggest it will cost approx £30,000 just to get the ground and club house into reasonable condition. However, our options are limited and so we have informed the council that we wish

options are limited and so we have informed the council that we wish to keep a return to The City Ground open as a possible option and we have not ruled out hiring a private ground again part accord. again next season."
The 141-year-old club folded in

2013 and reformed this season after fans and businesses came to its rescue to raise £5,000 to resume playing in the West Midlands Regional

League.

"A move to the Pavilion will be a significant step" added Mr Chambers.

Charity foundation set up in memory of Albion legend

A CHARITABLE foundation is being set up in honour of a West Bromwich Albion legend.

The Jeff Astle Foundation will support ex-sportsmen and women with brain conditions and is part of his family's campaign to raise awareness of head injuries.

to raise awareness of nead injuries.
Charity galas, dinners and grant applications will help fund care facilities, research and education for up and coming sports stars.
The foundation will ultimately aim to open a convalescence centre to help sports people and their families.

their families.

their families.

Discussions are being held to finalise patrons and trustees of the foundation which should be complete by early spring.

The footballer's daughter Dawn hopes that the foundation will be a lasting legacy for her father, who was known as "The King' to devoted Baggies fans."

father, who was known as "The King" to devoted Baggies fans.
"Although he was quite possibly the first to have been found to have suffered from this brain injury, we do not think that he will be last," she said.

Dementia

"It is something that we have been building

"It is something that we have been building towards for a long time and we always hoped to open a foundation in his honour.
"The dream is to actually have a purpose-built home for former footballers suffering from conditions like dementia.
"It has been a lot of hard work so far. The fans have been fantastic and have supported us."

The foundation will aim to have a couple of main sporting dipings works a year to bright.

main sporting dinner events a year to bring in funds for its vital causes. His family has registered The Jeff Astle Foun-dation at Companies House with the final paper-

work to be completed shortly. Artwork has been designed for the foundation and a website will be online within weeks.

"Trapped with no

Fairy Godmother?"



Baggies hero Jeff Astle during the glory days

It comes as a long-awaited research project, which has been the focus of the family's Justice-4Jeff campaign, should be established by the end of this month.

Governing body, The FA, has told the family a small panel of experts will be formed to lead the research looking at brain injuries and conditions in former players.

It will include Dr Willie Stewart who carried

out a new examination of the former player's The 59 year old's brain disease - chronic trau

matic encephalopathy – was linked to repeatedly heading the ball throughout his career.

Baggies fans have been backing the family's cause by applauding on the ninth minute at each game this season in his honour.

Children's social care is on the mend in Sandwell

THE under-fire children's social care department in Sandwell has been boosted after it was judged to be making 'good progress'.

The council's Children's Services

were heavily criticised by two Ofsted reports in 2013 and declared inad-equate. Since then the service has been restructured in a bid to stop

equate. Since then the service has been restructured in a bid to stop children having their social worker frequently changed and to remove inefficient practices.

The Local Government Association (LGA) carried out an independent peer review in November and found good progress had been made in several areas over the last year.

Its report said there had been strong leadership and an increasingly stable workforce. But it also found the service was missing opportunities to learn from complaints, feedback and examples of good practice.

The report's author, Peter Rentell, concluded: "The key message now is to just keep on with it, no more re-organisations or major change programmes but a process of continuous improvement. The basics are on the whole happening and there now needs to be a greater sense of purpose and pace and an absolute focus on quality of practice.

"There is still some practice that is inadequate but we also saw some practice that was good."

In light of the LGA's findings, the council will be subject to another Ofsted inspection in the coming weeks. At a recent council cabinet meeting, leader Darren Cooper said he was confident children's social care had turned a corner.

"From what I have read I am quite confident that we are moving significantly in the right direction," he said.

"From what I have read I am quite confident that we are moving significantly in the right direction," he said. "There is, of course, still some more work to do. We can expect Ofsted any day now. But I am confident and I welcome them to come."

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SANDWELL Council has launched the West Midlands Virtual Hospital (WMVH), a digital procurement tool to showcase the skills, knowledge and expertise of local firms.

The state-of-the-art WMVH has already generated significant interest from local businesses with over 400 companies expressing an interest in the initiative.

Many have created profiles to showcase their expertise, experience and capabilities in supplying products and services for the design, manufacture and operation of a 21st-century healthcare facility.

The WMVH is also attracting the attention of international businesses

attention of international businesses looking to procure products and services, putting local businesses on the map and showcasing their capa-bilities in delivering large infrastruc-ture projects. Commenting on the launch of the project, Jan Britton, CEO of Sandwell Council, said: "The West Midlands Virtual Hospital will create a visually appealing digital di-rectory of our talented firms, which

can be used by hospital and health-care buyers across the world." Councillor Ian Jones, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for jobs and the economy, added that the WMVH has significant potential to create international growth opportu-

rities for local businesses.

He said: "The West Midlands Virtual Hospital could be a catalyst for design and procurement best practice, allowing our small and meditive procurement best practice, allowing our small and meditive prize automorphic to procupe both um-size enterprises to prosper both in home markets and potentially overseas.

overseas."
Sandwell Council expects that the WMVH will translate into real-life opportunities for qualified firms.



A showcase for local know-how — The West Midlands Virtual Hospital as it is set to look online

Call for sky lantern ban after inferno

A BAN on Chinese sky lanterns — as seen in the movie Tangled — are set to cover parts of the Black Country, as councils fear fires caused by the contraptions.

councils tear fires caused by the contraptions.

One of the popular paper devices, which use the heat
of a small flame to take off into the night sky, caused
£6 million of damage at Smethwick's Jayplas recycling
plant in 2013, turning the site into an inferno of molten
plastic in one of the biggest fires to hit the West Midlands

Popular

The floating lanterns have become hugely popular in recent years, at weddings, new year celebrations and memorial events.

Wolverhampton City Council is to discuss the possibility of restricting the use of sky lanterns at marriage very council in property.

venues and on council property.

Sandwell Council has been calling for the lanterns

to be banned by the Government after the Smethwick blaze. West Midlands Fire Service is also calling for a

Club's goal to expand ground if promoted

crease the capacity of Stourbridge Football Club's ground as the club aims for promo-

The Northern Premier League club has submitted The Northern Premier League club has submitted plans for new stands and to alter existing areas for spectators at the War Memorial Athletic Ground — thanks to a cash boost from their FA Cup exploits.

The ground, which the team shares with Stourbridge Cricket Club in Amblecote High Street, already has a 2,000-capacity to meet current league rules. But officials need to upgrade areas around stands to improve Malsall 1-0. And the club beat League Two outfit

around stands to improve standards as the club aims for promotion to the Football League Conference.

A revamp programme is already under way costing £50,000 on re-laying areas around the ground to improve hard-standing.

Double

If the club is promoted to the Conference Premier, bosses have long-term ambitions to double the capacity of the ground to 4,000 to meet standards.

This would involve putting seating in the Shed End stand, currently a covered terrace.

stand, currently a covered terrace.

There would also be a 250-seat stand put at the Church End alongside a standing area for 900 fans.

Club chairman Andy Pountney said that the works were only possible thanks to the club's thrilling recent runs in the FA Cup which brought in tens of thousands of pounds. of thousands of pounds. The Glassboys made the

Walsall 1-0. And the club beat League Two outfit Plymouth Argyle 2-0 at Amblecote in front of the TV cameras to reach the second round proper in 2011/12.

The run was ended by League One side Stevenage who won 3-0 in front of an attendance of 3,067 at the War Memorial Athletic Ground, when the club boosted capacity with temporary stands.

Mr Pountney said: "The cup runs have been a mas-

oup runs have been a massive boost and they have helped us a lot. These plans for the extra stands are early days and are only if we are successful."

are successful." A statement from the club in the planning application submitted to Dudley Council states: "Stourbridge FC are an ambitious club and aspire to reach higher leagues in the 'pyramid'. These even higher leagues will have a leaver require. statement from the will have a larger require-ment regarding numbers of spectator capacities."

The height of the stands would not be increased.

Rachel will replace pregnant Frankie

STRICTLY Come Dancing finalist Frankie Bridge has reluctantly had to step down from the top TV show's live tour, which opens tomorrow night (Friday) at the Barclaycard Arena in Birmingham.

The Saturday's star is pregnant with her second child but has a condition cwhich can affect the early months of pregnancy, so has been advised by her doctor not to take part in the dance show tour. Her replacement will be Rachel Stevens. She was runner-up in the 2008 BBC1 series and went on to dance around the country in the 2009 Strictly Tour and more recently appeared in the 2014 Christmas Special. Strictly champion Caroline Flack, fellow finalists Simon Webbe and Mark Wright, together with Scott Mills, Alison Hammond and Thom Evans will be taking part. The new judging panel features the 2008 Strictly winners Tom Chambers and Camilla Dallerup, who join TV judge Craig Revel Horwood. Zoe Ball completes the line-up as host.

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18 NEWS IN BRIEF

MP wants more training in skills

BIDDERS for major infra-

BIDDERS for major infra-structure projects in the UK should be compelled to offer training for young people, says Warley MP John Spellar. He said there was still a huge skills shortage in construction and engineer-ing sectors. Speaking in the House of Commons, the Labour MP called on the Government to ensure bid-ders for contracts provide suitable training.

suitable training. Nicholas Boles, Univer-Nicholas Boies, Universities and Science Minister, said: "I think that it should absolutely be part of the procurement process for all major infrastructure projects that bidders are expected to make appropriate the process." projects that bidders are expected to make appropriate investments either in some form of skills training or, ideally, in the creation of apprenticeships."

Albion fans' FA Cup ticket trouble

Cup ticket trouble
WEST Bromwich Albion
fans trying to snap up tickets for the FA Cup derby
clash with Birmingham
City were kept waiting for
around an hour.
A problem arose last
Thursday following the discovery of a fault with the
online payment system.
Baggies fans were able
to reserve tickets for the
fourth round tie at St Andrew's on January 24, the
first meeting of the rivals
for four years, from Thursday, but they were unable
to actually process their orders from around 9,30am.
Albion said the issue

Albion said the issue was beyond its control and had been caused by a fault with the global banking software which processes payments.

Motorway coach crash driver banned and fined

driving after he fell asleep at the wheel and crashed off the M5 while carrying dozens of Black Country children.

Robert Blakemore, 60, from Wolverhampton, was driving 53 passengers from Dudley, Wolverhampton and West Bromwich, on a day out to the seaside, when the coach veered By Rob Golledge

the crash. He added that los-ing his licence would mean he would lose his job.

he would lose his job.

The coach was operated
by Lye-based Prospect
Coaches. It had been taking
a group of youngsters from
Bright Futures Children's
Centre in West Bromwich
for a seaside day out at
Weston-super-Mare.
In witness statements,
three passengers said

three passengers said Blakemore woke when the coach was drifting towards the hard shoulder and a girl screamed, the court heard.

No mechanical defect was

found with the coach and breath tests indicated he had not been drinking. Mr

Blakemore, who is diabetic, said he 'did not black out'.

He was handed a 15 month ban, fined £165 and ordered to take an extended

Two of the other Prospect Coaches travelling to Weston continued on to the seaside, while another turned back to the Black

off the motorway into a ditch in Gloucestershire

in August last year.

He pleaded guilty to driving without due care and attention at Stroud Magis-

attention at Stroud Magis-trates' Court last week. Seven people – one child and six adults, including Blakemore – suffered minor injuries during the incident. The coach was operated by Lye-based Prospect Coaches

by Lye-based Frospect Coaches. It had been taking a group of youngsters from Bright Futures Children's Centre in West Bromwich for a day out at Weston-super-Mare.

Licence

Children and teachers from across the Black Country had been looking forward to the day at the

forward to the day at the Somerset resort.

Blakemore was seen by passengers to have his eyes shut and chin resting on his chest at the time of the

He told the court that he was currently on sick pay and unable to work because of a broken leg suffered in

Honey is causing a buzz at farm shop



Sandwell Valley Park Farm assistant Sarah Walsgrove seen with some of the honey

A COUNTRY farm shop is causing a buzz with hun-dreds of jars of freshly made honey. Sandwell Valley Country Park has collected around 700 jars of the sweet

The park has more than a million of the under-threat honey fees kept in 30 hives at an apiary.

The bees produce honey in the actions the bees have the bees have the bees have the bees have the bees produce honey in the actions.

The bees produce honey in the autumn. It has been collected and is now on sale at the park's shop. Senior countryside officer Malcolm Freeman said: "The honey is delicious and a real product of what we see down here. With the see down nere. With the bees being under threat we made the decision two years ago to bring some here.

Hayfever

Exotic plants are planted around the apiary. One of the hives is behind glass for visitors to the attraction, off Salter's Lane, West Brom-

wich, Mr Freeman said the honey could also help pre-vent people suffering from

Oueen are to rock city with new singer

QUEEN with their new singer Adam Lambert are in concert at Birmingham city centre's Barclaycard Arena next Friday, following their televised New Year's Eve concert in London.

The California-raised American Idol finalist has been described by Queen guitarist Brian May as "a gift from God".

May says Lambert is the first singer they've found who is capable of filling the band's frontman role since the death of Freddie Mercury in 1991, aged 45.

The 32-year-old from San Diego, who topped the US chart in 2012 with his second album Trespassing, is not keen to make the comparison.

parison.

Inspired

He has been quoted as saying: "There's never going to be another. I'm trying to

to be another. I'm trying to share with the audience how much he inspired me."

Lambert auditioned for the eighth series of American Idol in 2009 by singing Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody. He went on to finish as runner-up to Kris Allen and in the final performed Queen classic We Are The Champions alongside Brian May and Roger Taylor of Queen.

Tickets start at £67 for the January 23 concert at

vent people suffering from hayfever. He said: "The good thing about the honey is what it does for hayfever. If we take honey produced locally in the judge your judge in the same area."

Tickets start at £67 for the January 23 concert at the former NIA. The line-up also features keyboardist Fairclough and percussion-bit Rufus Taylor, son of Roger.

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visit file 2-Day beaches on turniming for the enchanting fishing port of Honfleur, or head to exciting Paris to see the famous sights, it's only 121 miles from Le Havre.

If heading west into Celtic Brittany or south-west to the Loire Valley and sandy Atlantic beaches of the Vendee

and Charente-Maritime - do take time

and Charente-Maritime — do take time to stop off at magical Mont St Michel The ancient island abbey is linked to the mainland by a causeway. Or visit the castle at Fougeres, one of the finest fortresses in Europe.

The city of Nantes is a must for steampunk fans because of the Les Machines de L'ile where you can clamber aboard a massive mechanical elephant that walks around the former dockyards. The fantasy engineering is inspired by science fiction pioneer Jules Verne, a son of Nantes.

The resorts of the Vendee beckon you for lazy beach days, or carry on

you for lazy beach days, or carry on



Brittany Ferries sale to and from St Malo, also Roscoff, Cherbourg, Caen, Le Havre

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island reached by a vertigo-inducing toll bridge.

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with its brandy houses.

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of Arcachon for France's finest oysters and take in the awesome Dune du Pi-

and take in the awesome Dune du Pi-lat, Europe's tallest sand dune towering over sea and pine forest.

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Blues and classic rock at Robin 2

CLASSIC rock and blues are on the agenda at Bil-ston's Robin 2 venue.

are on the agenda at Biston's Robin 2 venue.

Twin guitar rock supergroup Snakecharmer are in concert tomorrow (Friday) at the Mount Pleasant venue. The band features original Whitesnake guitarist Mickty Moody and bassist Neil Murray alongside guitar ace Laurie Wisefield from Wishbone Ash. Expect such classics as Here I Go Again.

Luna Rossa, the new project by Anne-Marie Helder and Jonathan Edwards of Welsh prog rock band Panic Room, bring their rearranged acoustic show to the Robin 2 on Sunday.

The Aynsley Lister Band, led by the Leicester-born blues guitarist, are in concert on Thursday, January 22.

Family comedy and tale of terror

and tale of terror
THE revival of culture
clash comedy East Is East
is staged at the Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre until Saturday.
Fresh from a run in
London's West End, it features Absolutely Fabulous

star Jane Horrocks as the mother in an Anglo Paki-stani family in '70s Salford, alongside the playwright

alongside the playwright Ayub Khan Din, as his own creation Pakistani chip shop owner George Khan. The Frozen Scream, with Rula Lenska, is at The Patrick Centre, Birmingham Hippodrome, until Saturday. Christopher Green and novelist Sarah Walters' play is based on a tale ters' play is based on a tale of terror from the 1920s.

Grand gets ready for musical about 'Greatest Show on

Romance at movies for Sophie WEST End star Sophie Ev-

ans has been announced as the special guest for Brit-ain's Got Talent finalists the special special special sin's Got Talent finalists Richard and Adam's At The Musicals concert on Valentine's Day at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre.

The Welsh singer and active to prominence to prominence

tress came to prominence in 2010 when she was named runner-up in the hugely popular BBC series Over The Rainbow. She Over The Rainbow. She was later chosen by Lord Andrew Lloyd-Webber to play the alternate Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz at the London Palladium, a role she eventually took over full time from Danielle

Hope.
Sensational Welsh sing-Sensational Welsh sing-ing brothers Richard and Adam are back with their second UK Tour, this time featuring such silver screen classics as Can You Feel the Love Tonight, Goldfin-ger and Moon River. Tick-ets for the 7.30pm concert cost from £21 to £27.



Sophie Evans joins singing siblings Richard and Adam

musical Barnum makes its Grand arrival in Wolverhampton at the end of this month.

Song, dance and funnyman Brian Conley will be showing his circus skills when this hit revival of the musical about America's 'Greatest Showman' Phineas T Barnum opens a five-day run on Tuesday, January 27. Barnum was a hit when it opened on Broadway in 1980 starring Glenn Close and Jim



Stamp of success for Swedish sisters

ON Wednesday, January 21, the Red Lion Folk Club 21, the Red Lion Folk Club in King's Heath, Birmingham, will welcome Megson, who had a successful 2014 with the release of their critically-acclaimed album In A Box. The duo of Stu and Debbie Hanna will be supported by Marie-Claire Berreen. Tickets are £11 plus an extra £1 for non-members.

Swedish sisters First Aid Kit have sold out their

Aid Kit have sold out their concert at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham tomorrow (Friday). The duo of Johanna and Klara Söderberg, from Stockholm, will be bringing their mix of fells and country to the iron. folk and country to the im-pressive venue at 7.30pm. They have been such an international success that they are being featured on a Swedish postage stamp.

World premiere at ballet evening

BIRMINGHAM Royal
Ballet and its acclaimed
orchestra, the Royal Ballet
Sinfonia, under the baton
of Koen Kessels, returns to
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, for An Evening of
Music and Dance on Saturday, January 31.
Compered by the company's director David Bintley,
the evening includes classical favourites and danced
highlights from the companicklights from the compa-BIRMINGHAM

cal favourites and danced highlights from the company's diverse repertoire.

The programme is due to include scenes from Coppelia, Cinderella and Swan Lake. It will also feature the world premiere of Matryoshka choreographed by BRB dancer Ruth Brill to music by Shostakovich.



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CHOICE



Warwick Davis

Planet's Got Talent (ITV, 6.30pm)

When Paul O'Grady hosted the pilot for what would become Britain's Got Talent, UK TV bosses weren't impressed, so Simon Cowell hotfooted it to the US and sold the Opportunity Knocks-style format with far more ease. Alas, Paul fell out with ITV so Ant and Dec took over, and before long, Britain's Got Talent became one of Blighty's best loved shows. Then the rest of the world seemed to follow suit with their own versions of the glitzy talent show. Now, narrator Warwick Davis and a team have compiled a best of show. The first of the series features a dog that can do back flips on America's Got Talent; amazing Russian acrobats; an apple-hating Korean woman, and (Warwick's favourite), a man in India who can stuff 200

BBC₁

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the opening semi-final from Alexandra Palace. 4.30 Final Score. 5.20 Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.10 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

- Weather.

 6.30 Now You See It. Mel Giedroyc narrates the best and worst of the magic world, featuring Dynamo and a car with an invisible driver, and a man taking his legs for a walk, plus tricks going wrong.

 7.00 The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes front the second round of the competition to find the nation's best new vocal talent. Coaches Tom Jones, Will. Lam, Ricky Wilson and Rita Ora sit with their backs to the auditionees, hitting their buttons to spin their chair if they want to mentor that singer and allowing the hopeful to choose whose learn they want singer – and allowing the hopeful to choose whose team they want to join if more than one coach turns. Their aim is to build a team of 12 acts each and they'll use every trick in the book to attract the ones they want. Hopefuls include Yorkshire lass Jade Hewitt, 19-year-old identical twins Classical Reflection from Peterborough, and Billy Bottle and Martine, a hippy couple from Devon.
- Devon.

 8.25 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List. Shane Richie hosts the game show in which two contestants answer questions to try to win each other's dream prizes. Including the lottery draws, with Gaby Roslin.
- Casualty. Robyn tries to help a family who cannot feed their children, Ethan treats a hallucinating patient and Connie prepares for a showdown in court with Hailey Blake.
- D5 BBC News; Weather
- 10.25 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Swansaa City v Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers v Manchester United, National Lottery Update

11.50 The Football League Show 1.10 Film: Phantoms. (1998) 2.40 Weather for the Week Ahead. 2.45 BBC

BBC2
6.10 Animal Park. (R) 6.40 Film:
Skyrunners. (2009) A teenager gains superpowers after finding a UPO but is kidnapped by aliens, leaving his brother to come to the rescue. Sci-II advanture, starring Joey Pollari and Kelly Blatz. 8.10 Film: Henry Will and His Sk. Wives.
(1972) To Tude monarchi Looka Wi

- final from Alexandra Palacé. 5.30 Flog It!
 6.30 Dad's Army. A land mine cuts off all power and communications services in Walmington-on-5eo but Captain Mainwaring rises to the challenge by declaring marital law—while Pike gets stuck on some iron railings. Vintage comedy first broadcast in 1974, starring Arthur Lowe and lan Lavender. (R)
 7.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the
- Irvine presents coverage of the second semi-final from Alexandra Palace, London, where the line-up for the final will be confirmed over the best of 11 frames. Ronnie O'Sullivan prevailed against Stephen Maguire with a 6-2 victory in last year's concluding semi-final, earning him a chance to claim the title in a contest against Mark Selby. With commentary by Dennis Taylor, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Virgo, Steve Davis and John
- 10.30 Film: All Good Things. (2010)
 Premiere. The heir of a wealthy
 family marries a medical student,
 but becomes a suspect when she disappears without trace. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling and Kirsten Dunst.

12.05 Snooker Extra. Hazel Irvine presents extended highlights of the opening semi-final of the Masters at Alexandra Palace in London. 2.05 This Is BBC Two.

Bottom Knocker Street. 6.10
Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.20 Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R)
6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R)
6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R)
7.10 Sooty. (R) 7.25 Signed Stories:
Share a Story. (R) 7.30 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Adventure Time. 8.30 Scrambled!: Adventure Time. 8.30 Scrambled!: Hulk and the Agents of Smash. 9.25 ITV
Horrid Heary. (R) 8.50 Scrambled!: Hulk and the Agents of Smash. 9.25 ITV
Hovey. 9.30 Time Jersmy (kyle Show USA.
10.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.20 ITV
Howey. 9.30 Time Jersmy (kyle Show USA.
11.20 Minch Solong Michael J Fox. 4.35 Off Their Rockers. (R) 5.05 Regional
Programme: Weather 5.15 ITV Meets: Veather. 5.30 You've Been Framed! Best. (R)
3.30 Planet's Got Talent. New series.

- 6.30 Planet's Got Talent. New series. The best and worst clips from the global Got Talent franchise,
- global Got Talent franchise, examining how contestants across the world have fared in front of the judges. Narrated by Warwick Davis.

 7.00 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes. A phone retail manager, a holiday singer, a nurse, a learning administrator and a delivery driver are transformed into their favouritie singers as they vie for a favourite singers as they vie for a place in the final.
- place in the final.

 8.05 Take Me Out. Graphic designer
 Matt, Team GB taekwondo
 champion Andrew, car salesman
 Jamie and window cleaner Ross
 vie for the attentions of 30 single
- women.

 9.20 Film: Bridget Jones's Diary.
 (2001) A single woman begins a
 new year with resolutions to find
 love, quit her bad habits and take a
 step up the career ladder. Her
 plans crumble as she tries to deal
 with her mother's infidelity, get
 over a passionate filing with her
 boss and come to terms with her
 feelings for an uptight lawyer.
 Romantic comedy based on Helen
 Fielding's novel, starring Renee
 Zellweger and Colin Firth.

Zellweger and Colin Firth.

11.10 ITV News; Weather.

11.30 Film: Always. (1989) The ghost of a pilot is unable to rest until he helps his girffriend learn to move on with her life. Steven Spielberg's romantic fantasy, starring Richard Dreyfuss and Holly Hunter.

1.35 Jackpot247. 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.40 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

C.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.35
How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.00
Snowdonia Marathon 2014. 7.55 The
Morning Line. 9.00 The King of Queens.
(R) 9.36 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
10.30 Frasier. (R) 11.00 Frasier. (R)
11.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.55
The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.55 peed
with Guy Martin. (R) 1.30 Channel 4
Racing. Live coverage from Ascot and
4.9d Co. 20 The Simpsons. (R) 5.30 The
Simpsons. (R)
6.00 Channel 4 News.
6.30 The Restoration Man. George

- 6.30 The Restoration Man. George
 Clarke heads to Essex to observe
 the work of Jim and Bee Goody as
 they transform a derelict Victorian
 school into their dream property. 7 30 The World's Best Diet Food
- Unwrapped presenters Jimmy Doherty and Kate Quilton travel the globe examining the eating habits of a variety of countries, tribes and communities, revealing how dietary tendencies have changed radically since the 1960s. Experts help them rank 50 of the Experts help them rank 50 of the world's diets, from worst to best, as they explore the differences and surprising similarities between what people, thousands of miles apart, consume. Will their discoveries offer an insight into how individuals can improve their health and quality of life? (R)
- 9.00 Film: The Sweeney. (2012) Premiere. An insubordinate Premiere. An insubordinate detective and his loyal partner set out to stop a series of robberies across London. While they try to bring the criminals to justice, they come under investigation themselves as their unorthodox methods are met with disapproval from their superiors. Crime thriller based on the 1970s TV series, with Ray Winstone, Ben Drew, Damian Lewis and Hayley Atwell.

 11.15 Greg Davies: The Back of My Mum's Head. Stand-up comedy with the Man Down star, from the Lowry in Salford. Greg embarks on a petty quest to find out whether anyone is normal, after
- whether anyone is normal, after his mother remarked that he is

not. 12.15 Film: The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad! (1988) 1.50 50 Years of Rock Excess – Amps, Whips and Rebel Riffs. (R) 2.50 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.00 SuperScrimpers. (R) 5.50 NFL: Rush Zone.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.35 Access. 10.40 Monkey Life. (R) 11.01 Dec Rosal Truckers. (R) 12.10 Lee Rosal Truckers. (R) 12.10 Lee Rosal Truckers. (R) 3.00 Film: Columbo: Try and Catch Me. (1977) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. 4.35 Film: Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot. (1991) Detective drama, with Peter Falk and Rip Torn.

- drama, with Peter Falk and Rijo Torn.

 6.25 The NCIS Movie: War on Terror.
 Feature-length episode. A military aircraft transporting the bodies of US marines back home crashes before reaching its destination, and Glibbs and the team are called in to help identify human remains at the site of the wreckage.

 However, a DNA discrepancy turns a continue investigation into a a routine investigation into a search for a missing person. Crime drama, starring Mark Harmon. (R)
- Harmon. (K)

 8.00 CSI: Last Days of Jim Brass. A
 25-year-old mystery involving the
 theft of cash and the death of one
 of the robbers from gunshot
 wounds is rekindled when officers
 discover the bullet-riddled body of discover the bullet-riddled body or one of the witnesses in a location remarkably close to where the original incident occurred. As neither the money nor a lion figurine that was also taken that day were ever recovered, locals day were ever recovered, locals become convinced of a connection, and a former detective – obsessed by the case – also makes his presence felt. Elsewhere, Captain Brass handles a personal crisis after his daughter a personal criss after in bauginer takes an overdose. Treat Williams guest stars, with Ted Danson, Elisabeth Shue and Paul Guilfoyle. Last in the series. (R) 5 News Weekend.

- 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. Highlights of the famous residents' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to their housemates' quirks and foibles while also coping with the day-to-day complications of life inside the house.
- 10.00 Film: Bad Boys. (1995) Two 10.00 Film: Bad Boys. (1995) Two detectives are forced to swap identities as they hunt for a heroin consignment stolen by a drug kingpin. Michael Bay's action thriller, starring Will Smith.

 12.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 celebrity Big Brother. (R) 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You 8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Film: Armageddon (1998) 11.25 Family Guy 2.00 Crims 2.30 The Revolution Will Be Televised 4.00 Close

RRC Four

BBC Four
7.00 Lost Land of the Volcano 8.00
Everyday Miracles: The Genius of Sofas,
Stockings and Scanners 9.00 Spiral
10.50 Blondie's New York and the
Making of Parallel Lines 11.40 Blondie @
Glastonbury 12.35 Synth Britannia 2.05
Lost Land of the Volcano 3.05 Blondie's
New York and the Making of Parallel
Lines 3.55 Close Lines 3 55 Close

ITV2

11.05 The Cube: Celebrity Special 12.05
You've Been Framed! 1.05 Totally You've Been Framed! 2.2.10 Film: Valiant (2005) 3.09 Film: Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium (2007) 5.45 Film: King Kong (2005) 9.20 Take Me Out — The Gossip 10.05 Blue Go Mad In Ibiza 11.05 Film: Harold & Kumar Get the Munchies (2004) 12.55 Mom 1.45 Dads 2.10 Fake Reaction 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen

11.05 Inspector Morse 1.15 A Touch of Frost 3.15 Agatha Christle's Marple 5.20 Rosemary & Thyme 7.00 Doc Martin 8.00 Midsomer Murders 10.00 Lewis 12.05 A Touch of Frost 2.00 TIV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping TIV4

17V4
11.45 Pawn Stars 1.35 Storage Wars
2.30 Storage Wars: Texas 3.30 Film:
Destry (1954) 5.2 Film: Red River
(1948) 8.10 Film: Bill & Tied's Bogus
Journey (1991) 10.00 Africa Cup of
Nations Highlights 11.00 Film:
Apocalypse Now (1979) 1.55 The
Motorbike Show 2.45 ITV4 Mightscreen
3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store

11.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 12.30 Melissa & Joey 1.30 How I Met Your Mother 2.30 Rude(ish) Tube 3.30 The Mother 2.30 Rude(ish) Tube 3.30 The Mother 2.30 Theory 8.00 The 100 9.00 Film: Knight and Day (2010) 11.10 The Big Bang Theory 12.10 The Inbetweener 1.10 How I Met Your Mother 2.10 The Richt Genzeis Show 2.40 Don't Turet the Ricky Gervais Show 2.40 Don't Trust the B*** in Apartment 23 3.25 One Tree Hill 4.10 Desperate Housewives

Film4 11.00 13 Rue Madeleine (1946) 1.00 Biggles (1986) 2.50 Fast Girls (2012) 4.35 Hairspray (2007) 6.50 Top Gun (1986) 9.00 Priest (2011) 10.45 Storage 24 (2012) 12.30 Dog Pound (2010) 2.15 Basket Case (1982) 4.00 Close

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CHR16

CHOICE



Helen George

Call the Midwife (BBC1, 8pm)

New series. The nuns and midwives of Nonnatus House return, with new nurse Barbara who is anxious to prove herself only to get off on the wrong foot after a late-night drinks party. A family of severely neglected children is discovered so Trixie strives to restore their health and bring happiness into their lives. leaving Tom filled with admiration for the woman he loves, while Sister Evangelina finally undergoes tests for her abdominal pains. Shelagh finds she is at the surgery almost as much as she is at home, so the Turners come up with a solution which, for 1960, proves somewhat ground breaking. Jenny Agutter, Pam Ferris, Miranda Hart, Judy Parfitt and Helen George star

BBC₁

6.00 Breakfast. 7.35 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Sunday Politics. 12.15 MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Politics. 12.15 MOI DZ EXTR. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.15 Flog It! (R) 2.40 Escape to the Country. (R) 3.25 Lifeline. 3.35 Songs of Praise. 4.10 Film: Shrek the Third. (2007) Animated sequel, with the voice of Mike Myers. 5.35 Celebrity Mastermiel.

6.05 BBC News: Regional News:

- 6.30 Weather.
 6.30 Weather.
 6.31 Countryfile. The team pays a visit to Kesswick in the Lake District. We have the following the finding wheelchair team of the finding wheelchair to experience the thrill of abselling through the use of a frame originally designed for mountain rescues. Ellie Harrison climbs Helvellym mountain to predict the weather with hilltop assessors and finds out about early tourism in the Lakes, and Sanjida O'Connell is on the banks early tourism in the Lakes, and Sanjida O'Connell is on the banks of Coniston Water, where she tries her hand at the Cumbrian craft of oak swill basket-making. Adam Henson travels to Wales to discover the secret of White Park Cattle's origins and Tom Heap investigates how easy it is to get good healthcare in isolated parts of the countryside. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
- Weather for the Week Ahead.

 7.30 Still Open All Hours. Granville buys too much stock and needs to come up with a way of getting rid of it all, while Eric is having a few marital problems and asks Leroy for a few tips on wooling his wife.

 8.00 Call the Midwife. New series. Trixie helips a family of neglected children, new nurse Barbara gets off on the wrong foot and Sister Evangelina finally undergoes tests for her abdominal pains.
- for her abdominal pains.
- 9.00 Last Tango in Halifax. Caroline is overwhelmed at the prospect of looking after the new baby, until a stranger comes to her rescue.

 10.00 BBC News; Regional News;
- Weather.
 10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark
 Chapman reviews the latest
 Premier League action, featuring
 Manchester City v Arsenal at the
 Ethad Stadium and West Ham
 United v Hull City at Upton Park.
- 11.25 The Apprentice USA.
- 12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.55 BBC News.

6.15 Great British Garden Revival. (R)
7.15 Glorious Gardens from Above. (R)
8.00 Countryfile. (R) 9.00 The Football
League Show. (R) 10.20 Saturday
Kitchen Best Bites. 11.50 Food & Orink.
(R) 12.20 James Martin: Home
Comforts. (R) 12.50 Live Snooker. The
Masters. The opening eight frames of the
final from Alexandra Palace. 5.15 Ski

Sunday.

6.00 The Tea Trail with Simon Reeve.
In the first of two This World
documentaries examining the
stories behind the nation's
favourite beverages, adventurer
and broadcaster Simon Reeve
looks at the production of tea. He
begins in the Kenyan coastal city
of Mornbasa, where most of the
leaves for teabags are bought at
auction, before travelling through
eastern Africa to meet some of the
millions of people who pick, pack
and transport it. He drinks tea with
everyone from Maasai cattle
herders to the descendants of the
original plantation owners, and
hears claims of low wages and
child labour. (R)

7.00 Live Smooker: The Masters. Hazel

child Jabour. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The Masters. Hazel Irvine presents concluding coverage of the final from Alexandra Place, London, where a maximum of 11 frames will be played to decide this year's champion. Ronnie O'Sullivan claimed his fifth Masters title with a 10-4 victory over Mark Selby in 2014, winning four frames to the Jester from Leicester's two in the second session. With commentary by Dennis Taylor, Ken Doherty, Stephen Hendry, John Virgo, Steve Davis and John Parrott. Subsequent programmes subject

Subsequent updamines soupprainnes souper to to change.

11. OPF lim: Last Orders. (2001) Four men visit Margate to scatter a friend's ashes and reminisce about their shared experiences over the last six decades. Drama, with Michael Caine, Bob Hoskins and Tom Courtenay.

Tom Courtenay.

2.45 Sign Zone: Countryfile. People and places hit by the 2014 floods in Somerset, meeting the farmer whose livelinode needing the farmer whose livelinode needing the farmer whose hirdline (R) 1.40 Holby City. Jonny is distraught when Jac considers a new start in the USA with Emma. Sacha's daughter Rachel is brought in, while Mary-Claire and Harry try to hold back their mutual attraction. (R) 2.40 This Is BBC Two.

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. 6.10
Bottom Knocker Street. (R) 6.20 Bottom
Knocker Street. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R)
6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 1.00 Canimais. (R)
6.45 Dino Dan. (R)
6.45 Dino (R) 4.00 Film: Live and Let Die. (1973) Adventure, starring Roger Moore.

6.20 Regional Programme; Weather 6.30 ITV News: Weather.

 6.30 ITV News; Weather.
 6.45 Get Your Act Together. New series. Well-known faces are paired with leading variety acts to master a chosen talent, before competing on stage for a place in the final. Stephen Mulhern hosts.
 8.00 Foyle's War. When his colleague Hild Pierce is targeted by an assassin outside MIS, Foyle must re-examine her top-secret role during the war. He suspects the shooting could be connected to the hunt for a traitor within the Special Operations Executive who may have been behind the deaths of nine agents in France. may have been benind interdeals of nine agents in France.
Meanwhile, Sam is faced with a dilemma when Adam and Glenvil crack down on the black market in East Peckham.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.
10.15 Perspectives: Warwick Davis –
The Seven Dwarfs of Auschwitz.
The actor tells the story of a
Jewish family of travelling
musicians who survived Josef
Mengele's hideous experiments at
the Nazi concentration camp
during the Second World War. (R)
11.15 The Undriveables. A designer
who struggles to control her road
rage and an executive PA prone to
pass their driving tests with the
help of leading instructors. (R)
11.45 The Chase. Bradley Walsh

11.45 The Chase. Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R) 12.35 The Store. 2.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.05 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.40 Challenge Bahrain. 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 9.00 Frasier. (A) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.25 The Simpsons. (R) 2.55 The Simpsons. (R) 3.25 Film: Mighty Joe Young. (1998) 5.40 Channel 4 News.

5.40 channel a News.
 6.05 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.
 Laura Hamilton meets a London couple who want a holiday home in Mojacar, southern Spain, showing them a townhouse with stunning views for £25,000 less than their budget.

stunning views for £25,000 es than their budget.

Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. In the East Micliands, Jim and Jenny are desperate to sell so they can move closer to work, but their home has already been on the market four months, and when Phil Spencer arrives, he encounters a house with missing floorboards, a dated bathroom and toys scattered everywhere. Meanwhile, Gwyneth and her daughters are under pressure to sell before someone else snaps up their dream property, but with six cats and neglected decor, buyers are not exactly forming a queue.

The Hotel: Mark goes all out to

8.00 The Hotel. Mark goes all out to impress a three-time Olympic gold medallist staying at the hotel, and

medalist staying at the notel, and focuses on improving customer service – but acerbic head waiter Paul presents a challenge. Walking the Nile. Levison Wood faces a 1,300-mile walk across the Sahara with three badly behaved camels, before tackling his toughest physical challenge –
crossing the Bayuda volcanic field
10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown

Team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson are joined by Jack Whitehall and Roisin Conaty, while Rob Beckett is in Dictionary Corner with Susie Dent. (R) 11.05 Film: The Pact. (2012) Premiere. A woman returns to her family

A woman returns to her family home after her mother's death to find her sister has disappeared and the house may be haunted. Horror, with Calty Lotz.

12.50 The Last Leg. (R) 1.45 Film: Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives. (2010) 3.36 Kirstle's Best of Both Worlds. (R) 4.30 River Cottage Bites. (R) 4.40 SuperScrimpers. (R) 5.35 Face the Clock. (R)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Pip Ahoyi (R) 6.40 The Mr Men Show. (R) 6.55 Choler's Closet. 7.05 Milo Mao. (R) 7.10 Oily the Little White Van (R) 7.15 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 7.30 Make Way for Noddy. (R) 7.40 Pay Patrol. (R) 7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.10 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.20 Milkshakel Bop Box. (R) 8.25 Wanda and the Allen 8.35 Berl and Erniès Great Adventures. (R) 8.40 Zack and Quack. (R) 8.50 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 9.15 Jelly Jamm. (R) 9.30 Lazy Youn. (R) 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turrles. (R) 10.35 Access. (R) 11.35 Film: He Husband's Betrayal. (2013) Thriller, starring Jacqueline Machines Wood. 3.20 Film: The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill, But Came Down a Mountain. (1995) Comedy drama, starring Hugh Grant 5.15 Film: Did You Hear about the Morgans? (2009) Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker. 7.05 Film: My Super Ex-Girtfriend. (2006) Ordinary New Yorker Matt

Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker.

7.05 Film: My Super Ex-Girlfriend.
(2006) Ordinary New Yorker Matt
starts dating a woman he meets
on the subway, unaware she is the
superhero G-Girl. When he breaks
up with the insecure crimefighter,
she is outraged and uses her
superpowers to make his life a
misery. Meanwhile, her archenemy sees Matt as a potential ally
in defeating G-Girl once and for all.
Fantasy comedy, starring Uma
Thurman, Luke Wilson and Eddie
Izzard. Edited for language and
sexual content.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. A chance to

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room.

room.

10.00 Film: Gone. (2012) Premiere. A woman who was once kidnapped finds her sister has disappeared, and lears the man who abducted her has struck again. Thriller, with Amanda Seyfried and Daniel

Amanda Seyrired and Damer Sunjata.

12.00 He Left Me for My Mother and Other Betrayals. (R) 12.55 SuperCasalo. 3.10 Benefit House: Me & My 26 Kids. (R) 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.40

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel
7.05 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes 7.35 The
Voice UK 9.00 Backchat with Jack
Whitehall and His Dad 9.30 Russia
Howard's Good News 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 Crims 11.15 Family Guy 12.00
Backchat with Jack Whitehall and His Dad
12.30 Russell Howard's Good News 1.00
Crims 1.30 Siblings 3.00 Who Needs
Ibiza? The Great British Holiday 4.00 Close

To 00 Tales from the Royal Bedchamber 8.00 Queen Victoria's Letters: A Monarch Unveiled 9.00 The Joy of Mozard 10.00 Poet on the Frontline 11.00 BBC Four Sessions — The Great American Songbook 12.00 Sound of Song 1.00 Sings the Great American Mareiran Songbook 2.00 Blues at the BBC 3.00 The Joy of Mozart 4.00 Close

ITV2

11.45 Take Me Out 1.00 Take Me Out — The Gossip 1.45 You've Been Framed! 3.20 Film: Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey (1993) 5.05 Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) 7.15 Film: Jurassic Park III (2001) 9.00 Film: The Dark Knight (2008) 12.05 Film: Billy Madison (1995) 1.45 Mom

11.20 Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four 1.40 Film: The Belles of St Trinlan's (1954) 3.35 Inspector Morse 5.55 Lewis 8.00 The Zoo 9.00 It! Be Alright on the Night 10.00 Northern Lights 11.00 Film: The Count of Monte Crist

17V4
12.10 Counting Cars 1.05 Film: The Secret
War of Harry Frigg (1967) 3.25 Africa Cup
Or Nations Highlights 4.25 Film: Battle of
the Bulge (1965) 7.40 Film: Driven (2001)
10.00 Africa Cup or Nations Highlights
11.00 Film: We Were Soldiers (2002) 1.40
Hell on Wheels 2.25 Nitro Circus 2.50 ITV4
Nightscren 3.00 Teleshopping
F4

E4
2.30 Revenge 1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.30 The 100.330 The Big Bang Theory 5.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 6.00 Marry Me 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Him: Transformers (2007) 10.50 The Big Bang Theory 11.20 The Inbetweeners
12.20 Rude Tube 1.25 The Cleveland Show 2.45 Rules of Engagement 3.30 Hollyoaks Film4 Film4 11.00 The Mark of Zorro (1940) 1.00 Big

Fish (2003) 3.25 Carry On Dick (1974) 5.10 The Three Musketeers (1993) 7.15 Airplane II: The Sequel (1982) 9.00 Van Helsing (2004) 11.40 The Rum Diary (2011) 2.00 Tenacious D in The Pick of Destiny (2006) 4.00 Close



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January 15,

, 2015

FILM CHOICES

A Simple Plan, BBC1, 12.20am
Two brothers and a friend stumble on a fortune in unmarked small dollar bills in the wreckage of a plane and decide to squirrel it away for themselves. Ho the strain of keeping the cache secret takes its toll as guilt, paranoia and greed change their relationship for ever. Sam Raimi's psychological thriller, starring Bill Paxton, Billy Bob Thornton and Gary Cole. (1998)

The Kite Runner, BBC1, 11,35pm

The friendship between two boys growing up in Afghanistan – wealthy Amir and Hassan, the son of a servant – is shattered, seemingly for ever, when Amir fails to protect Hassan from a brutal attack and later drives him away to conceal his shame. After years living in exile as a writer in America, an adult Amir returns to his home country to atone for his childhood sins by finding his friend's missing son. Drama, starring Khalid Abdalla and Atossa Leoni. (2007)



ed Up. Friday ITV 10 40pm

The Ring, BBC1, 12am

A journalist investigates several teenage deaths, which are linked to a cursed videotape and the rumour that anyone who watches it will die a week later. Her growing obsession with the tape endangers herself and her family – and to avoid the predicted fate, she has just seven days to find out where the recording came from. Gore Verbinski's remake of the Japanese supernatural horror, starring Naomi Watts and Brian Cox. (2002)

THURSDAY

Out of Reach, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman faces having her family torn apart when her husband enters into a business arrangement with two lifestyle coaches, only to end up joining their cult of followers. She struggles to get him away from their influence, but the conflict grows more serious when the sect tries to gain custody of her daughter. Thriller, starring Erin Karpluk and Lochlyn Munro. (2013)

FRIDAY

Knocked Up, ITV, 10.40pm

Ambitious journalist Alison's one-night stand with directionless layabout Ben has unexpected consequences when she discovers she is pregnant Consequences when she discovers she is pregnant. However, the unlikely parents decide to give the relationship a try for their baby's sake. Romantic comedy, starring Seth Rogen and Katherine Heigl. (2007)

Historical series hopes to be a novel success

espite the best efforts of Jonathan Rhys Meyers in The Tudors and Eric Bana in The Other Boleyn Girl, it seems Henry VIII still has a very unglamorous

PICK OF THE WEEK

Or as Damian Lewis puts it: "I think we all have this understanding that he was this womanising, syphilitic, bloated, genocidal Elvis character."

However, in new drama series Wolf Hall, adapted from Hilary Mantel's rran, auapteu from milary Mantel's two Booker-prize-winning novels, the actor is hoping we can see beyond the monarch's weight and diseases. It helps that the story is approached from the perspective of Henry's advisor Thomas Cromwell (acclaimed stage actor Mark Rylance).

It's also allowed Lewis to explore another side to the King, "I think what I've found in Henry is that the grandiose, more paranoid, self indulgent, self pitying, cruel Henry emerged in the period after this series...

"What we're trying to concentrate on a little bit is just to give a more varied portrait of Henry, and that's really how this is written. Henry's not in it very much but when we see him there's great variety in his character and his personality...

"We see him at times frightened by the memory of his mother and I think these are little insights that people won't be used to, you know, and yet there are the similar things there, the vanity is still there, the self

Importance.

So it's little wonder that the former Homeland star has mixed feelings about being able to empathise with his character. "The more I read about him the more I was happy – and alarmed – to find that I did share character traits with him.

"I suppose everyone else will be the judge of it, but certainly sitting in the clothes, it feels like a canny piece of casting, it feels like a canny piece of casting, because I do feel, I do find similarities between myself and him."

He adds: "I think there's no question it helps having had the kind of schooling that I've had [at Eton] to play a King. Just the way, the sort of court structure, hierarchies, the way they're set up, it's something I feel I

We'll be able to see just how convincing Lewis is as the six-part series begins with the monarch desperate to produce a male heir, which means ending his marriage to Katherine of Aragon (Joanne Whalley).

Wnaley).

Unfortunately, Cardinal Wolsey
(Jonathan Pryce) isn't having
much luck in persuading the Pope to
annul the union – and if he falls from
favour, that will also have a knock-on
effect on his protégé, Thomas

When the Cardinal is dismissed as Lord Chancellor, the noble families of England begin jostling for position, keen to become the King's next advisors, but Cromwell is hopeful that the Wolsey will eventually regain Henry's favour.

That could be tricky though, as That could be tricky though, as the Cardinal has made many enemies at court, including one Anne Boleyn (Claire Foy), who still resents him for ending her betrothal to Henry Percy eight years earlier, and could now be in a position to take revenge as the King's rumoured new mistrace.



Mark Rylance stars in Wolf Hall, Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Broadchurch

ITV, 9pm

The little town with a lorry-load of secrets is certainly back with a bang, and true to form, it's once again dominating all conversations, whether a work, down the pub, or about the house. Writer Chris Chibnall has a lot to answer for – his brilliant work seems to be dominating almost all our waking thoughts. He explains: 'In the time we've been off air, we've never stopped working on the show's return. I knew from the start, that there was another story to tell in the world of Broadchurch: so much so that I'd pitched it to Peter Fincham, Director of Television at ITV, in our very first meeting when he greenlit the first series of the show.' Secrecy has shrouded this second series before now but in tonight's third episode, Hardy faces a race against time as Ellie discovers startling new evidence. But she's got plenty more on her plate than that, as she comes under pressure from all sides, and life for Mark and Beth is about to change forever

TUESDAY

The Eichmann Show

BBC2, 9pm

2014 was the year Martin Freeman became officially ubiquitous, starring in the final Hobbit movie, the third series of Sherlock and the acclaimed TV

drama Fargo. His 2015 is shaping up to be just as drama, which is showing to mark the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Set in Jerusalem in 1961, it follows ground-breaking TV producer Milton Fruchtman (Freeman) as he sets about filming the trial of Adolf Eichmann, one of the architects of the Holocaust, First though, he has to convince the judge that cameras belong in the courtroom, and then train up an inexperienced camera team with the help of director Leo Hurwitz (Anthony LaPaglia) an acclaimed filmmaker who had been blacklisted by McCarthy, However, the pair's persistence pays off when the footage gives victims of the Holocaust the chance to share their horrifying experiences with a global audience

WEDNESDAY The National Television Awards – Live! ITV, 7.30pm

The biggest names on the small screen gather at the O2 in London for the annual ceremony celebrating the best of British TV over the past 12 months, as voted for by viewers. Now in its 20th year, the show promises a few surprises, including a cheeky raid by one of the UK's

biggest sitcom stars, while host Dermot O'Leary Cumberbatch (Sherlock), Maggie Smith (Downton Abbey), Sarah Lancashire (Happy Valley) and Sheridan Smith (Cilla) battle it out in the Drama Performance category, while star makers Simon

> Fernandez-Versini are up against star baker Mary Berry for best TV Judge. Other closely fought contests include Serial Drama Performance, which sees EastEnders' Danny Dyer and Kellie Bright (Mick and Linda Carter) go head to head, with further competition from Verity Rushworth (Emmerdale's Donna) and Nikki Sanderson (Hollvoaks'

Cowell, David Walliams and Cheryl

Maxine Minniver THURSDAY Cucumber Channel 4, 9pm New series. Sixteen

years after the hit

Manchester-set

series Queer as

Broadchurch, Monday, ITV, 9pm

Henry is drawn to the enigmatic Freddie, while Lance greets newcomer Daniel, but both friendships are set on a course to explode FRIDAY

Folk appeared on the small screen. Bussell T

passions and pitfalls of 21st-century gay life - one

of three interlinked shows for Channel 4, E4 and online. When a 46-year-old man and his long-

suffering boyfriend embark on a disastrous date

night, nothing will ever be the same again. At work,

Match of the Day Live

BBC1, 7.30pm Cambridge United v Manchester United (Kick-off 7.55pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the opening FA Cup fourth-round match, which takes place at Abbey Stadium between the respective League Two and Premier League outfits. The hosts are the lowest-ranked club left in the draw, and will be delighted with this money-spinning tie against the 11-time champions, who have already negotiated one tricky fixture away to lower-league opposition in the shape of Yeovil Town in round three. The U's squad contains former United midfielder Luke Chadwick and this is the first meeting between the sides since a two-legged League Cup encounter in 1991, which saw the Red Devils held to a 1-1 draw on this ground.





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²⁴BRAIN GYM

20

R

Codeword

201

5

Thursday,

Halesowen Chronicle

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.

_	1	18	21	7			7			15	25	1	23
3	26	-	26		23	11	1	26	19			9	
4	2	14	9	22	1		9		26	10	14	1	23
	ш	1.4								"	1.4		20
5	13		17		25		14		14			11	
	3	8	1		15	3	4	18	12	21	13	11	
6	8		24				18		18				1
7	1	8	13	22	18	7		18	8	2	11	26	21
	2				20		21			Н	26		2
⁸ F		24	4	14	6	6	14	10	11	П	17	14	⁸ R
9		8			13		19		1	П	16		²⁶ U
10	21	1	11	14	11		26		21	1	18	22	14
10		14			18	3	14	5	2	Н	3		11
11	2	21	13	16			22			23	2	13	9
12		_	_		ITION	2011	-1410			_	_	_	_

fit the same grid. Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Sort of gambling common on board ship (5,3,4)
- 7. Urban areas to the West, North and South (5)
- 8. Left in a unit entirely without support? (5)
- 9. Nothing for a teetotaller to swallow! (3)
- 10. If you do, the rest
- must be easy (5,4) 11. Noted printer's er-
- rors (6) 12. Delay by putting the
- date in wrongly (6) 15. Keep in mind what
- the host will do (9) 17. I follow the Spanish prophet (3)
- 18. Yet one wouldn't pay a high rent for it (5)
- 19 Lowered oneself? (5)
- 21. Hardly descriptive of the time a final (3,6,3)

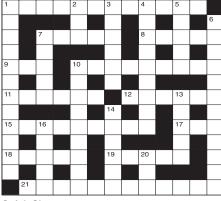
Down

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both

- 1. Modern container that can be made to go by elephant! (9.3)
- 2. A question of manners (3) 3. Made a home for a
- good man in need (6) 4. Show contempt for
- a vagrant Noel put up (7,2) 5. Cut a Pole to the
- heart (5)
- 6. Having made good progress, what the desert traveller would like to find? (4,2,3,3)
- 7. Don chopped up trout (5)
- 10. Humorously critical, yet possibly racialist (9)
- 13. He won't play a principal part (5)
- 14. Possibly part of the mail boat (6) 16. It is included in the
- tax (5) 20. She's held in rever ence (3)

Niner: BOULEVARD



Quick Clues:

Across

- 1. Incident (12)
- 7. Trend (5)
- 8. Redbreast (5)
- 9. Look at (3) 10. Appearance (9)
- **11.** Decayed (6)
- 12. Strain (6)
- **15.** Wavering (9)
- 17. Can (3) 18. Alliance (5)
- 19. Honour (5)
- 21. Spineless (12)

Down

- 1. Scornful (12) 2. Large vase (3)
- 3. Road (6)
- **4.** Revoked (9)
- **5.** Hut (5)
- 6. Excessive (12)
- 7. Apply remedies (5)
- 10. Being (9)
- 13. Way in (5)
- 14. Promise (6)
- 16. Descendant (5)
- 20. Sphere (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

,	SOLUTIONS >									
1	1	4	5	2	9	3	8	6	7	
ı	8	7	6	1	5	4	3	9	2	
ı	2	3	9	6	8	7	4	1	5	
i	6	1	3	5	7	2	9	4	8	
ı	7	8	4	3	6	9	5	2	1	
ı	9	5	2	8	4	1	7	3	6	
İ	4	9	8	7	2	6	1	5	3	
	3	2	7	9	1	5	6	8	4	
	5	6	1	4	3	8	2	7	9	

LAST WEEK'S

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Credits; 8 Animal; 9 Spirits; 10 Orders; 11 Sacked; 12 Snapshot; 18 Spirits; 10 Orders; 11 Sacked; 12 Snapshot; 18 Test-tube; 20 Stream; 21 Swatthe; 22 Surcoat; 23 Prompt; 24 Redress. Down: 1 Carouse; 2 Misdeal; 3 Baims; 5 Ripostes; 6 Direct; 7 Tatter; 13 Hot meals; 14 Customs; 15 Resents; 16 Attune; 17 Fencer; 19 Toward. QUICK - Across: 4 Village; 8 Hearty; 9 Strange; 10 Rotten; 11 Roller; 12 Exertion; 18 Calamity; 20 Detour; 21 Prison; 22 Display; 23 Aplomb; 24 Swollen. Down: 1 Shorten; 2 Canteen; 3 Street; 5 Internal; 6 Liable; 7 Gagged; 13 Increase; 14 Mission; 15 By and by; 16 Review; 17 Compet; 19 Abruph; by: 16 Review: 17 Compel: 19 Abrupt

Quiz

- By what name do we know the bird sturnus vulgaris?
- Which president's desk bore the legend 'the buck stops here'?

| C | S | T | O | W | Z | A | M | J | Q | Y | D | I

- Who wrote The Caretaker in 1960?
- Which city became France's capital for four days in WW2?
- In whose honour is the US state of Virginia named?
- 6. Which bird has mistle and hermit varieties?
- What name did photographer Emmanuel Rudnitsky assume?
- What do we call the study of the surface shape of the land?
- Who is chairman of the charity
- Mencap?

 10. Which Manchester soccer legend died in January 1994?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 David Dimbleby; 2 Joey; 3 Zurich;

4 Kurt Vonnegut Jr; 5 Madonna; 6 Salmon;

7 Daley; 8 Tower of London; 9 Edwina

Currie; 10 Motown.

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters

> 45678 gives a flower. 4371237 gives another flower, **82571489** gives a plant.

	g g							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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DRIVING EXPERIENCE - COST OF OWNERSHIP - DESIGN & BUILD - RANGE

Video reviews • Dealership information

Stylish orangery at this four bedroomed house



dence in Attingham Drive, Dudley, comes with a stylish orangery. It is for sale through Connells at £279,950.

I has an entrance hall with laminate flooring, a lounge with wood-effect laminate flooring and under stairs storage, a kitchen/diner with attractive modern cream units and contrasting working surfaces, a double electric oven with gas hob and cooker hood, fridge, freezer, dishwasher, high gloss tiled flooring and pelmet lighting, an orangery with the same attractive high gloss flooring, spot lights and a self-cleaning glass roof and a utility. A galleried landing leads to a master bedroom en suite with wardrobes, three further bedrooms with wardrobes, a bathroom with bath and double shower cubicle.

There is a driveway, integral garage and a rear I has an entrance hall with laminate floor-

There is a driveway, integral garage and a rear garden with a patio and lawn.
Contact Connells on 01384 214770 or visit www.connells.co.uk



Extended property in popular location THIS, extended, detached family home

THIS extended detached family home in Oakham Road, Oakham, Dudley, is a sought-after area. It is for sale through Wakeman Estate Agents at £265,000. It has a porch, reception hall, a lounge with an Adam-style fireplace, a kitchen/dining area with a tall storage unit concealing fridge/freezer, a range cooker with electric hod, ceramic tiled floor finish, an archway separating a dining area with French doors opening out onto paved terrace, utility, WC. separating a timing area with Freitin doors opening out onto paved terrace, utility, WC, sitting room, principal bedroom with wardrobes and en suite, three further bedrooms, a bathroom with a bath with shower, store room, rear garden with a shed. Call 01902 885894 or visit www.wakeman-on line.com









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...... appriances & REFITTED 14ft utility room. UPV. conservatory to rear & downstairs WC. BLOCKPAVE! driveway & SOUTH facing rear garden. GCH & UPV. DG. EPC rating: D Ref: D1533

Lounge/diner, kitchen, breakfast room & sun lounge. central heating (not working) & part double glazing. EPC rating: F Ref; D1541



EXTENDED 5 bed home refurbished to a HIGH STANDARD. NO UPWARD CHAIN. 25ft REFITTED kitcher STANDARD, NO UPWARD CHAIN. 25th REFITTED kitchen diner. REFITTED d/s shower room & separate utility. 18th lounge to front. 5 GOOD SIZE bedrooms, REFITTED family bathroom & REFITTED separate shower room. BRIVEWAY to front & extensive gardens to rear. UPVC DG & GCH fitted. EPC rating: C Ref. D1527

NO UPWARD CHAIN - Semi-detached home with POTENTIAL for improvement and/or extending DRIVEWAY to front giving off road parking. Havin 2 reception rooms, kitchen & side utility veranda.







PLANNING PERMISSION granted for 2 further DOUBLE bedrooms. 22th breakfast kitchen, 2/3 reception rooms & 25th CONSERVATORY to rear. LARGE family bathroom & 3 bedrooms on 1st floor. GARAGE & driveway to front.







NO UPWARD CHAIN - IDEAL INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT opportunity. Having 2 DOUBLE bedrooms & family bathroom. 19ft lounge diner, 13ft kitchen & 12ft sun room. DRIVEWAY to front giving off road parking. EXTENSIVE rear garden. Gas central heating - not tested. EPC rating: D Ref: D1537



Semi-detached home with DRIVEWAY to front giving entral heating & majority UPVC double glazing. Lawr arden with REAR access, EPC rating; E Ref; D1546



Modern RETIREMENT apartment on the 2nd floor with LIFT ACCESS. 13ft lounge & 10ft kitchen. 2 DOUBLI bedrooms (1 could be used as a dining room) & fitted. Car park to front. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC rating



SUPERB terraced home with DRIVEWAY for up to 6 cars on the front!! REFITTED 11ft breakfast kitchen, utility double glazing & gas central heating fitted. Lawn rea arden with patio. EPC rating: D Ref: D1523

NO UPWARD CHAIN - SPACIOUS DETACHED BUNGALOW. 2 DOUBLE bedrooms both with en-suite WCs. 22 ft kitchen diner, separate utility room & 14ft lounge. 2 ATTIC ROOMS on 1st floor. Gas central heating

& majority UPVC DG. GARAGE & driveway giving of

road parking. EPC rating: D Ref: D1515



NO UPWARD CHAIN - SPACIOUS terraced home with NO UPWARD CHAIN - SPACIOUS (ETIALES HOME A.S.) DRIVEWAY to front & GARAGE en-bloc. 16ft lounge to rear & 11ft breakfast kitchen to front. 3 bedroom: WESTERLY aspect. Gas central heating fitted. EPC

£119.950 Ref: D1524

Residential Sales & Lettings

Scriven & Co

Chartered Valuation Surveyors and Estate Agents 0121 422 4011



ew Appointments



Congratulations to Charles Scriven BSc, Nicola Stevens MARLA and George Scriven BSc George and Charles have both been appointed directors of the

company and Nicola has been made an associate. They look forward to working with you in 2015



Westfield Road

- Three reception rooms Kitchen * Conservatory
- Downstairs wo

Oldbury

Moat Road

- Three bedroom:
- Bathroom with shower Garage EPC=E
- Offers in the region of £139.950

Oldbury

Utility

Downstairs wo

Side garage

Three bedrooms

Knowle Hill Road

Lounge and dining room

Good sized rear garden EPC=tbc

Offers in the region of £109,950



Forest Road

- Semi detached house Two reception room Re-fitted kitchen

- * Four bedrooms * Good sized garder EPC=D

Offers in the region of £199.950

ANTIQUES VALUATION DAY Saturday 31st January 10am - 2pm



FINE ART, ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

Scriven and Co. have teamed up with Fielding Auctioneers. You are invited to bring your antiques along to our Quinton Office, 821 Hagley Road West B32 1AD οn

Saturday 31st January where Antique experts will value items. (There will be a small charge of £2 per item, 3 items for £5 with a limit of 3 items per person).

Scriven and Company will provide refreshments, tea and coffee will be available and a selection of cakes for a small donation.

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Dudley Netherton



Oldbury Tividale

Gibbet Hill

Smethwick



Edgbaston Road

- *Good sized terrace house
 *Sitting room and living room
 *Kitchen/breakfast room
 *Three good sized bedrooms
 *Good sized rear garden EPC=D
 Offers in the region of £189,950

Oldbury



Manor Abbey Koda

*No CHAIN * Four bedrooms

* Re-fitted kitchen/dining room with fitted appliances * Through living room

*Re-fitted brithroom * Ground floor shower room/wet room with WC * Good sized rear garden * Small garage (suitable for storage anth PCPC=I)



Moat Road

*Traditional style semi detached house

*Three bedrooms

*Two reception rooms

*Kitchen/potential breakfast room

Side garage Good sized gardens need some improvement but full of potential

*Gas boiler heating radiators EPC = D.

Offers in excess of £150,000

Manor Abbey Road

garden * Small garage (suitable for sto only) EPC=D Offers in the region of £275,000

Halesowen



Plot 2, The Paddock

- Hurst Green Road

 * Brand new link detached bunga

 * Kitchen with host of appliances
- * Two bedrooms

 * Master bedroom with ensuite

 * Fitted carpets EPC=C

£180.000

Cradley Road Traditional style semi detached house Lounge/dining room " Kitchen Fitted Cloakroom " Three bedrooms Bathroom with corner bath Large garage " Gas boller heating radiators, double glazed windows Offers in the region of £149,950 Oldbury

Gibbet Hill

* Spill level detached house

* Open plan living space

* Fitted cloakroom

* Four bedrooms

* En suite shower room

* Utility

* Double garage EPC =C

Offers in the region of £339,999

Oldbury

Halesowen



New John Street

- Brand new semi-detached bungalow
 2 Bedrooms, shower room
- Fitted kitchen with oven and hob EPC=C
- Lounge with French doors to gardens
 Double Glazed windows, gas boiler heating radiators * Off road parking for two vehicles
 Completion anticipated March/April 2015

£135.000



Penncricket Lane

- EPC = D (Shop) EPC = E (Flat)
- Of interest to investors and retailers. Lock-up shop with stock room and kitchen. First floor one bedroom flat with externa
- Stock room and outbuildings.
- * Viewing by appointment via Agents
 Offers in the region of £125,000

- Dog Kennel Lane

- Dog Kennel Lane

 Detached house
 Fitted cloakroom
 Tswo reception rooms
 Studyllobly aarea
 Bedroom one with en-suite
 Three further bedrooms
 Good size rear garden EPC=D
 Offers in the region of £349,950



Holly Road

- * Semi detached house * Recently modernised letached hous
- Kitchen/dining room
- Three hedro Box room/study

£179.999

Halesowen

Small garage
No unward chain EPC=D

Dudley



- Tansley Hill Road

 *Impressive detached house with five bedrooms. *Crounds extending to 1.07 acres (0.43 hectares) including former pony paddock *Lounge, dining room and family room.

 *House bathroom and shower room.

 *Kitchen/breakfast room with *Aga* cooker.

 *Extensive garaging and drive parking EPC=E
 Offers in the region of £550,000

Tanslev Hill Road

Quinton



Mayswood Grove

heMarket.com

- Semi-detached house 3 bedrooms and bathroom
- Through living room and kitchen
 Utility room * Store rooms with potential to

- * Garden * Garage * Carport EPC=D

 Offers in the region of £140,000

Oldacre Road

- Terraced House Through living room comprising living and
- dining area * Bathroom and separate wc

Offers in the region of £99,950



9 Old Port Close

- Ground floor flat * One bedroom Open plan kitchen/living room Night storage heating * Car space DSS considered *Available Now
- Monthly rent of £365+ application fee £135



George Road

George Koad

* Link detached bungalow * Two bedrooms

* Two parking spaces * L Shaped lounge/dining
area * Quality fitted kitchen with host of
appliances * Luxury bathroom with shower
cubicle * Gas boiler heating radiators

* Eithed Caroles * Fitted Carpets
*PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED * EPC = C



40A High Street

* First Floor Flat * Two Bedrooms
* kitchen/dining room with fridge, washing machine, oven and hob * bathroom with showe Gas boiler/radiator heating system

Monthly rent of £450+ application fee £135 (inc VAT) 1st tenant and £100 (inc VAT) each additional tenant. Deposit required 6 weeks rent.









arade Buildings

Nimmings Road

Annual rent of £4,200



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www.teamprop.co.uk

hickshadley.com 0121 585 6667

£359,500 price tag on cottage-style detached









Spacious Rowley home with plenty of potential



A UNIQUE extended and spacious family home in Rowley Village, Rowley Regis, with scope for further extension, is for sale through Tom Giles & Co at £190,000.

Also having the option to convert the rear garage into a work-shop/office, it has a porch, entrance hall, lounge, dining room, a conservatory with a coal effect electric fire and ceramic floor tiles, a kitchen with a built-in oven, four plate gas hob and extractor.

There are five bedrooms, a shower room and bathroom, a block paved driveway and a garage/workshop.

For further information contact Tom Giles & Co on 0121 5526171 or visit www.tomgilesandco.co.uk website.







Hicks Hadley

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Managemer



STOURBRIDGE, Orwell Close£800 pcm+Fee
A well presented 3 bedroom seni detached home freaturin
kitchen/diner, lounge, 2 double bedrooms and 1 single, fami
bathroom with shower, garage and car port. This proper
is also double glazed and centrally heated (both as spec
Viewingo bijohk recommended EPC: D.



AMBLECOTE, 41a High Streets: AD pormittees
A fantastic opportunity to rent a new build home on a select development.
Featuring homes of 3 generous size bedrooms (master with en-suite)
finished to an exceptional standard. Featuring spacious loungedifining
areas, well appointed kitchens, downstairs WC, 3 bedrooms with family
bathrooms & master bedroom with en-suite, 2 allocated parking spaces,



HALESOWEN, Melbourne Road2695 pcm+Fees Within walking distance to Halesowen, is this 3 story town house. Well worth an inspection inside and set within a quiet cul-de-sac, comprising of: 3 bedrooms, large fitted dining kitchen, very large lounge, downstairs wc, house bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, off road parking for



HALESOWEN, Haden Hill Road2675 pcm+Fees
A beautifully presented terraced properly situated in Haden Hill area close to
local transport links, Haden Hill Brack, Halesowen Town Centre and Craftle,
Heath. Featuring 2 bedrooms, master en suite. 2 good size reception
rooms, fully fitted kitchen, utilify, separated dining area, downstains
cloakroom, upstains family bathroom, easy to maintain rear garden, gas



great size house close to Halesowen and buses to lalesowen and Cradley Heath just outside. This home patures 2 reception rooms, dining kitchen, downstairs w.c., good size bedrooms, bathroom with separate shower. renefits also include gas central heating, front and rear ardens, garage, driveway. EPC. TBC



HALLSOWEN, I AIDOT STreetE-55U pcm-Hee Step inside this fantasic 3 bedroom terrace propert Renovated throughout within the last 6 months to a very hig standard, featuring 2 great size reception rooms, moder fitted kitchen, fully tiled bathroom with electric shower, greatral heating system EPC: 8



A spacious mid terraced house in a sought after location and close to local shops. Featuring a fitted breakfast kitchen through lounge/dining room, 3 good size bedrooms bathroom with shower (New bathroom to be fitted) with separate toilet. Benefits include rear garden. Convenien location for Brigningham On goad parking PSC: D



HALESOWEN, Newton Court 800 pcm+Fee A recently converted 3 betroom ground floor apartmen finished to an extremely high standard and centrally locate with commuter links to Halesowen and Birmingham. Featurin 2 double bedrooms, both with fitted wardrobes, 2 bathrooms, single bedroom, 2 extra rooms downstais, secondary glazin throughout. Allocated parking, Viewings recommended. EPC.



BRIERLEY HILL, Gayfield Avenue£795 pcm+Fe
Superb modern & totaly returbished 4 bedroom detached ho
on this very popular estate. (Withymnoor Village) Featuring
entrance hall leading to study room, downstairs w.c. large lou
with separate dining room, filted kitchen with 'Country Ci
range cooker, 3 double bedrooms & 1 single, family bathro
with shower, carage & driveway. Not to be missed!! EPC: C



OLDBURY, The Dingle 2750 pcm-f-ses 1ST MOVITHS RENT HALF PRICE! This detached house is situated just off th New Brimightam Read giving easy access to Brimingham. Wolverhampton are MS motoway. This recently refurbished property leatures an open plan inkine lounge, fitter & Kinchen with appliances. I adming upstains with enough space to create a study area or relaxation space. 4 large bedrooms, family bathroom with shower off fit production for several care and a large nearned.



OLDBURY, 50104Way
A large extended traditional link-detached house in a quiet cul
de-sac. Entrance porch leading to entrance hall, large throug
lounge/dining area, studyplayroom, superb bathroom with 'F
shaped bath & shower over, 3 double bedrooms, large rea
garden, driveway to front for 2 cars. EPC: E



HALESOWEN, Haden Hill Road£695 pcm+Fees Fully returbished to a very high standard 3 bedroom detached house close to Alessowen Town Centre. This lovely property has a reception room, brand new fitted kitchen with oven/hob, dining room with patio doors leading to a private rear garden, upstairs are 2 double bedrooms & 1 single, brand new fitted



ROWLEY REGIS, Queens Drive2675 pcm-Fee: A very well presented 3 bedroom modern detached family hom situated in a very quiet & popular location. This property has a attractive lounge, dining room, modern fitted kitchen with oven/hot downstairs claskroom, 3 good size bedrooms, shower room, ag central heating, ample off road parking, detached garage, beautifu



DUDLEY, Tansley Hill Road £650 pcm+Fees A wonderful family home, situated in a lovely quiet backwater cui de-sac, enjoying far reaching wees to the rear of the property. Write tradition in style, this home has been extended and boasts an excellent samily kitchen (filing morn. The property very attractive accommodation. There is a drivieway for 2 cars, large rear garden with a detached storage room. Viewing is highly recommended to



ROWLEY REGIS, Spring Vale Road:2650 pcm+Fer 151 MONTHS REIT HALF PRICE! An opportunity to acquire a w maintained traditional detached properly stuated in a popular resident location in a quiet cul-ide-sac close to local schools, amenities and road in featuring a large living room, fitted kitchen with a double range cooker, W 2 double &1 single bedroomstudy, bathroom with shower, drivewar/gaza and the control of the c



ITALE JOWEN, WEST RUGUE 2023 DUTHFREES A lovely 3 befrom traditional semi-detached house in this popular location. Large lounge with fireplace, fitted kitchen, 2 double & 1 single bedroom, family bathroom, garage, driveway, front & rear gardens. Available now. EPC: TBC



HALESOWEN, Woodland RoadE550 pcm+Fet Traditional style 3 bedroom mid terraced house. Loung hallway, modern kitchen, Utility room, downstairs hall room 2 double & 1 single bedroom, gas central heating. Priving



WOUNDSLEY, LYDIORUST DIVEX-500 pcmH-68: Fantastic size property and a great location for local shops an transport links to Kingswinford, Stourbridge and Wordsley This wonderfully presented fully retribished semi-detache house features 2 double bedrooms, large dining kitchen spacious lounge, bathroom with shower, gas central heating double detailed, drivewers perforing. EPC: TRC



ITETION, WORTACT DITVE £520 pcmH-6et
A lovely traditional semi detached home, not far from shop
and on a bus route. Featuring a spacious living room, fitte
kitchen, conservatory, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom wit
shower, double glazing, gas central heating, driveway parking
troot and rac gardene. Each trial heating, driveway parking



Located within minutes of Blackheath Town Centre. This lovely unfurnished ground floor apartment features electric storage heating, open plan living room/fitted kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, allocated parking space. EPC: TBC



FRADLEY HEATH, Victoria Gardens\$425 pcm+fees modern top floor apartment, in the centre of Old Hill with pcal bus stop outside and Old Hill train station close by. This partment comprises of 1 double bedroom, electric storage eating, double glazing, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower llocated parking, unfurnished. EPC: C

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 Lounge Kitchen-Diner Unlife Area and Clookroom W/c To Ground Floor

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 Double Tondem Grazone Dei
- Bathroom W/c
 Double Tandem Garage Driveway and Garden To The Rear
 Cul-de-sac Location Handy For Local Amenities Viewing Recommended

£299,950

DUDLEY



OAKHAM AVENUE

- Extended Detached Property EPC Rating D
 Reception Rooms Kitchen Utility Room Downstairs Shower Room
 Four Bedrooms Family Bodt/Shower Room W/c
 Black Powed Drive Garage and Garden To The Rear
 Property Internal Viewing Highly Recommended To Appreciate Accommended To Appreciate
- Offers Over £230,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766

OLDBURY



OAK ROAD

- ditionalBay Fronted Link Detached Property EPC Rating C

 Lounge Dining Room Fitted Kitchen

 Three Bedrooms Family Bathroom W/c
 nefitting From A Gas Fired Central Heating System and
 Double Glazing

 Side Garage Driveway Rear Garden

QUINTON



WILMINGTON ROAD

- onal Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property Awariing EPC Rating

 Lounge Dining Room Conservatory and Kirbhen

 Three Bedrooms and Bahrhoram W/c

 erry Benefits a Gas Fired Central Heating System and Double
 Glazing

 Side Garage Driveway and Garden To The Rear

OLDBURY

KINGSWAY

- Traditional Bay Fronted Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D Lounge and Open Plan Kitchen-Dining Room To Ground Floor

 Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To the First Floor

 Property Benefits From A Gas. Central System Heating and Double Claring

 Outlier Claring

 Outlier Claring

£170,000

BARTLEY GREEN



ADAMS BROOK DRIVE

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QUINTON



QUINTON ROAD WEST

- Semi Deteched Property Horing No Upward Chain EPR Cating D

 Through Lounge/Dining Room Breekhast Kirkhen Downstairs Bathroom W/c

 Property Benefits From A Gracentral Heating System and Double Glozing

 Outside The Property There is A Drive To The Frast And Carden To The

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QUINTON



HIGGINS LANE

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating E
 Lounge and Kitchen-Dining Room To The Ground Floor
 Three Bedrooms and Bethroom W/c To The First Floor
 There Is A Block Powed Frontage and Garden To The Rea
 Property Benefits From Having No Upward Chain

BARTLEY GREEN



ADAMS HILL

- ADAMS HILL

 Sami Datached Property Availing EPC Rating D

 Through Loung/Dining Room Breakfat Kitchen Storage/Study Accept the Propertioned Bedrooms Bethroom Separate W/c

 Drive and Garden to The Front Landscaped Garden To The Rear

£130,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766

OLDBURY



VALENTINE ROAD

- End Terrace Property EPC Rating D
 Lounge kitchen-Dining Room Utility Room Clockroom W/c
 Three Bedrooms Family Bathroom W/c
 Property benefits From A Gas Central Heating System and Double Glazing
 Driveway to The Front Garden To The Rear

QUINTON 0121 4217766

- Modern Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
 Open Plan Lounge-Dining Room Fitted Kitchen To The Ground Floor
 Three Bedrooms Shower Room W/c To The First Floor
 Property Benefits From A gas Central Heating System and Double
 Glow
 Side Garage Driveway To The Front and Garden To The Rear

QUINTON



DIMMINGSDALE BANK

- Mid terrace Property Awaiting EPC Rating unge Dining Kitchen and Cloakroom W/c To The Gra Three Bedrooms and Family Bathroom W/c To the Fire Three Bedrooms and Family Bathroom W/c To the First Floor
 Property Benefits From A Gas Central Heating System and Double Glazina
- Double Glazing

 Outside There Are Gardens To The Front and Rear

£120,000

QUINTON 0121 4217766



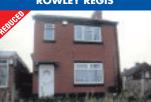
ROMSLEY ROAD

- Semi Detached Property EPC Rating D
 Lounge Dining Room Kitchen and Downstairs Bathroom W/c
- Three Bedrooms with Dressing Area off Master Bedroom
 Gas Central Heating System Double Glazing
 Block Paved Drive To the Front Garden To The Rear

£105,000

QUINTON 0121 4217766

ROWLEY REGIS



TITFORD LANE

- Detached Property Benefiting From No Upward Chain EPC Rating D
 Through Lounge and Kirchen To Ground Floor
 Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To First Floor
 Black Powed Frontoge Garden To the Rear
 Property Requires Upgrading Throughout

Offers Over £80,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766

THE HILL, WOODGATE VALLEY



THE HILL

- Extended Ground Floor Flat EPC Rating D Open Plan Living/Dining Room and Kitcher
 - Two Bedrooms Bathroom W/c
- Enclosed Rear Garden
 Internal Viewing Recommended To Appreciat
 Accommodation

Offers Over £70,000 QUINTON 0121 4217766



Ground Floor Retirement Apartment EPC Rating D

Lounge Kitchen Two Bedrooms Bathroom W/c

Security Gated Communal Parking Aveo 10 The Rear

Benefits From Security Entry Phone System And Emergency Pull Chords

Block Benefits From Having A Lift, Loundry Room and Communal Gradens

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- RIDGEWAY AVENUE tached Property Re-furbished To a High Standard EPC Rating D Ad Lounge Separate Dining Room Fitted
- Extended Lounge Separate
 Kitchen Three Well proportioned Bedrooms Bothroom W/c
 QUINTON 0121 4217766

BARTLEY GREEN



End Terrace Property Recently Re-furbished Throughout EPC Rating C
 Lounge/Dining Room Open To Fitted Kitchen On Ground Floor

Three Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To First Floor
 QUINTON 0121 4217766



THE DINGLE

Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen to Ground Floor
 Four Bedrooms and Bathroom W/c To First Floor
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 Lounge Kitchen Iwo Bedrooms Bathroom and Separate W/c
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GUARDIAN HOUSE HAGLEY

OLDBURY

Unfurnished Detatched Property Immediate Availability EPC Rating E

BARTLEY GREEN



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lettings

Suzuki Cross purposeful

By David Banner

Suzuki has set the SX4 S-Cross up to ride fairly softly and that's a good thing on roads like ours but they've also managed to include a respectable amount of roll stiffness, which means you won't encounter lurching when cornering.

The four-wheel-drive transmission features an electronically controlled clutch pack, operated by a four-position switch on the centre console. Choose 'Auto' and it'll stick to driving the front wheels unless slip is detected, whereupon the rear wheels are pressed into action.

'Sport' diverts up to 20 per cent of torque to the rear wheels to give livelier handling. 'Snow' offers permanent four-wheel drive, with the system choosing how much torque to split front and rear, while 'Lock' splits the torque equally between front and rear.

Prices sit in the £15,000 to £24,000 bracket, with diesel models starting at around £17,000.

There's a choice of five trim levels – SZ3, SZ4, SZ-T and SZ5. The ALLGRIP 4WD system is only available on the top version for a premium of around £1.800.

for a premium of around £1,800.
You'll need an \$25-spec model to opt for the CV auto gearbox too. Even the base \$Z3 gets 16-inch alloys, air-conditioning, cruise control, front and rear electric windows, heated door mirrors and a USB socket





'Range-topping S75 gets high-intensity-discharge headlamps, leather upholstery and a huge twin-panel sunroof.' There's also a model designed to target the fleet market, the SZT trim featuring 17inch wheels, silver roof rails, skid plates, satellite navigation, dual-zone air con, DAB radio, plus a keyless entry and start system

tem.
The range-topping SZ5 gets high-intensity-discharge headlamps, leather upholstery and a huge twin-panel sunroof.

Most customers will choose the DDiS diesel engine and rightly so. It's better to drive and gets strong economy. Suzuki quotes a figure of 67.2mpg for the front-

wheel drive version, which is on a par wit the less powerful Skoda Yeti GreenLine.

Go four wheel drive and you're looking at 64.2mpg. Emissions are well in check with the front-wheel drive diesel recording 110g/km and the four-wheel drive version 114g/km. Choose a petrol-engined model and these numbers range from 125 to 135g/km, while combined cycle fuel consumption varies between 47.8 and 51.3mpg, depending on your choice between two or four wheel drive and manual or CVT auto transamission.



Request a Test Drive today: suzuki.co.uk/halesowenmotorhouse

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki SX4 S-Cross range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km): Urban 39.7-55.3 (7.1-5.1), Extra Urban 55.3-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 47.8-67.2 (5.9-4.2), CO₂ emissions 135-110 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Model shown: SXA S-Cross 1.6 SZ5 available at £20,249 on the road. SXA S-Cross range - SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ3 Manual available at £3,999 to SX4 S-Cross 1.6 DDIS SZ5 ALLGRIP Manual available at £23,549. The features referred to in this advertisement and all specifications and equipment may vary depending on engine, transmission and model grade. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. On the road give valid from 1st January 2015 to 31st March 2015. Model shown - SXA S-Cross 1.6 SZ5 Manual (metallic paint available) at £30,549. The features referred to available in SZ3 Maler and SZ3 Moles Imposed. **Holder SZ3 Moles Imposed. **







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12 62	ASTRA ACTIVE 1.416V 5DR SOVEREIGN SILVER 15,900 MILES	£9,395	£9,245	£150		PEUGEOT 308 1.6HDi 5DR 35,000 MILES MET BLUE	£7,495	£300
12 62	CORSA SE 1.216V 3DR STAR SILVER 22,500 MILES	£7,495	£7,245	£250		FIAT 500 LOUNGE 0.9 TWIN AIR WHITE 15.000 MILES	£7,435	£500
13 13	ASTRA ENERGY 1.416V 5DR SOVEREIGN SILVER 11,500 MILES	£9,795	£9,545	£250		VW GOLF MATCH 1.9TDi 5DR BLACK 46,000 MILES	£7,695	£305
11 61	INSIGNIA SE 1.816V 5DR PANACOTTA 35,200 MILES	£8,495	£7,495	£1,000		PEUGEOT PARTNER TEPEE 1.6HDi 5DR MET BEIGE 27,000 MILES	£7,495	£300
13 63	CORSA SE 1.416V 3DR SILVER LAKE ONLY 2,800 MILES	£9,195	SOLD	£250	10 10	VW GOLF Tsi 1.4 5DR MET BLUE 22,000 MILES	£8,495	£255
11 61	MERIVA SE 1.416V 5DR STAR SILVER 14,000 MILES	£8,795	£8,445	£350	10 10	MERCEDES BENZ B CLASS B160 SE BLUE EFFICIENCY BLACK MET 15,000 MILES £9,295	SOLD	£300
11 61	ASTRA Sri 1.416V 5DR RED 14,500 MILES	£8,995	£8,895	£100		INSIGNIA S 1.816V 4DR STAR SILVER 32,000 MILES£6,495	SOLD	£500
11 11	ASTRA EXCLUSIV 1.416V 5DR STAR SILVER 20,000 MILES		£7,995			MERIVA DESIGN 1.616V 5DR METRO BLUE 58,000 MILES	SOLD	
12 62	ASTRA ACTIVE 1.616V 5DR POWER RED 6,800 MILES	£9,795	SOLD	£350		AUDI A4 S-LINE 2.0T Fsi AUTO CABRIOLET 63,000 MILES	£8,495	****
13 63	CORSA Sri 1.416V 3DR CARBON BLACK 19,000 MILES	£8,995	£8,745	£250	11 11	HONDA CR-Z 1.5 3DR SILVER 19,000 MILES MET SILVER 19,000 MILES £8,995	SOLD	£300
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Super cool Leon Cupra - grace with lots of pace

By Matt Kimberley

I'm going to start at the end. Having this car parked outside my flat for the last six months has been a privilege.

It reminds me every time I drive it that there are fast, fun cars out there that you don't need to thrash around like you're a hormone-charged teenager. It's a car in which you can chill out just as much as go

sports car-baiting – but boy, is it good at the latter. First let me sum up the performance. When you let it loose, the Cupra 280 runs riot like a furiously territorial bull. It rampages through the DSG gearbox with the front tyres on the limit, slamming each new ratio home with a satisfying whump in the back and a cheeky parp from the twin

I reckon it could – and should – be a bit louder in Cupra mode; the angriest of the four driving mode selector options. When Comfort and Individual modes can take care of the quiet, relaxed, everyday thing, there's no reason to hold back with Cupra.

The VAQ triple-clutch differential assist on the front axle

is worth its weight in unobtanium, managing the immense torque across the grippy front Bridgestones to devastating effect. Dry weather traction is unbelievable: violent, relentless and intoxicating. Your tyre fitter will thank you for the

extra business if you enjoy it too often.

The DSG gearbox is a thorn in the car's side. It's a bit fragile, so torque has to be limited and fed in slowly when the turbo first spools up. It helps to make the automatic Cu-pra the gentler and more relaxed option compared to the manual, but the latter is more immediate, more explosive more raw and, believe it or not, smoother - unless you're a complete dunce with the clutch.

Additional

Then there's the lack of real manual control to boost the sense of driving involvement. If you don't shift up in time, it'll do it for you, so if you're just a fraction late with the shift paddle, you end up switching two gears instead of one. It could definitely be implemented better. At the additional price it commands, it's hard to recommend INSG. commands, it's hard to recommend DSG.

But either way, having that swell of torque on tap is a joy even if you only ever use 20 percent of it on your commute. Just knowing it's there is enough to put a smile on your face.

Over my time with it, I did come across some annoying niggles. The CD player being in the glove box is one of them, and the desperately old-tech media screen is another I'm sure the screen on my first mobile phone had better resolution.

OK, I exaggerate, but it really isn't good enough for a 2014 car costing almost £30,000 before options. Thankfully,

2014 car costing almost £30,000 before options. Inankfully, the much-improved unit from the Leon X-Perience could see production in the Cupra in a year or two.

I've really grown to like the wheels. They give stance. I wasn't sure about them to begin with, thinking them on the large side for the size of car. At 19 inches, they make one heck of a statement and initially I'd have preferred the 18-inchers available only for the Leon FR, but the more you look at this car, the more the wheels make sense

It's not a massively overstated car in terms of its styling. but there's no question in my mind that the wheels add at-

Until you kerb them, anyway. Protect them if you can.
What I really love about the hottest Leon is that it's not perfect. My affection for it comes squarely from the heart rather than the head. There are flaws to accept and work around, just like with a husband or wife, but it's all part of the hot Seat's unique character. It helps that it's especially beautiful in the three-door SC body style with its sleekly sloping roof line and rear three-quarter curves to die for.

The Leon Cupra 280 is uber-desirable; it's a car you buy because it pulls your heartstrings more than any of its rivals. But rest assured it has the bite to back up its bark.

TESTED

Seat Leon SC Cupra 280 DSG, from £28,230 Engine: 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder petrol producing 276bhp @ 5,350-6,600rpm and 258lb. ft @ 1,750-5,300rpm

Transmission: Six-speed DSG automatic gearbox driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 155mph (limited), 0-62mph in 5.7 seconds

Fuel economy: 42.8mpg (official)

CO2 rating: 155g/km

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14 14 VIVARO SPORTIVE 2.0CDTi 115PS LWB 2900 SILVER ...

Fresh style inside and out plus a new model

By Matt Kimberley

Kia's quart-from-a-pint-pot small car, the facelifted Venga, is now on sale in the UK.

There are restyled front and rear ends which give the Ven-

ga a sportier appearance and the interiors have been re-freshed with added touches of luxury and more equipment. At the top of the range there is a new Venga 4 model.

The new line-up is based on five trim grades and four engines, giving a choice of 11 models. The highly economical gnies, giving a croice of influence. The linging economical 1.4- and 1.6-litre petrol and diesel engines are carried over from the previous Venga and give potential fuel economy of up to 64.2mpg, with CO2 emissions as low as 117g/km. Intelligent Stop & Go (ISG) is standard where it can effect a worthwhile improvement in fuel consumption and emis-

sions, and appears on all but one manual version.

The 89bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine is offered with 1, 1 Air and 2 trim grades, while the 89bhp 1.4-litre diesel is reserved exclusively for Venga 2. The two 1.6-litre engines with manual transmission are available with grades 3 and 4. The 1.6 petrol engine is also offered with a four-speed automatic gearbox in grades 2, 3 and 4.

All versions have a more aggressive, sportier front bumper and main grille, featuring a new take on the 'tiger nose' theme with high-gloss black mesh and a chrome surround. The Kia logo has been relocated to the bodywork. The lower air intake has been redesigned to house daytime running lights (LED with grades 3 and 4) next to the fog lights, which now sit in high-gloss black housings joined by a chrome strip. There is also now a chrome strip linking the rear light units, which are LED on Venga 4. Another premium touch with Venga 4 is the chrome exterior door handles.

For grades 2 and above, there are new-style 16-inch alloy wheels with five triple spokes, while grades 1 and 1 Air continue with 15-inch steel wheels with five-spoke embellishers. Interior improvements include new black Houndstooth

Interior Improventents include new black Tourissiouni
cloth for entry-grade models, while grade 2 continues
with black Beat cloth and level 3 again has black Bamboo
part-leather and part-cloth upholstery. This is also fitted to
the new Venga 4. There is a new Grey Metal Grain paint
finish for the centre fascia of Venga 1, 1 Air and 2, while highgloss black continues to adorn Venga 3 and is replicated in the new Venga 4.

Split rear seats that slide fore and aft by up to 130mm allow the passenger accommodation to be stretched when maximum luggage capacity is not needed. Alternatively, a two-tier boot means that owners who occasionally need more than the standard 440 litres of cargo space can expand the luggage area simply by lowering the floor. The luggage compartment thus becomes 163mm taller, extending total volume to 570 litres. If more space is required, the rear seats have 'Fold & Dive' functionality, which makes them seem to disappear into the floor, creating a completely flat deck in a load area offering a cavernous 1,253 litres of

Specified

All models are extremely highly specified, and features previously unattainable with the Venga now appear in certain models. Tyre Pressure Monitoring is fitted to all versions, warning the driver of any potentially serious loss of pressure via a symbol in the instrument cluster. Automatic Light Control is now standard with Venga 3 and 4, and Venga 4 also has 'welcome' and 'follow-me-home' lighting.

Other unique features to Venga 4 are a smart key with

engine start/stop button, a heated steering wheel activated by a control switch on the right-hand wheel spoke to com-plement the heated front seats fitted to Venga 3 and 4, and a panoramic sunroof. Venga 3 and 4 are also equipped with a 7-inch touchscreen satellite navigation system with European mapping and a Traffic Messaging Channel. The full-colour touchscreen also includes a reversing camera. The infotainment system, which is also accessed via the touchscreen, no longer includes a CD player due to the increasing trend among customers of using portable devices to play music. The high-quality six speaker audio system includes RDS radio, full MP3 compatibility and AUX and USB

Standard across the range are driver's seat height adjustment, tilt and telescopic steering wheel adjustment, electric front windows, remote central locking, tinted glass, steering wheel-mounted audio controls, a front passenger armrest, body-coloured handles and door mirrors and electrically adjustable heated door mirrors.

Venga 2 models add alloy wheels, an iPod cable, Bluetooth hands-free mobile phone operation with music streaming, rear electric windows, folding door mirrors and reversing sensors. Venga 3 versions come with climate control, front and rear electric windows, front fog lamps, privacy glass on the rear windows and tailgate and cruise control

For safety, all Vengas have six airbags), active front head

restraints and two ISOFIX child-seat mounting points. Every Venga has Kia's unique seven-year/100,000-mile warranty, subject to terms and conditions covering wear-and-tear items. It is transferable to future owners should the car be sold during the period of the warranty.







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Prepare for the big freeze

Experts at the Trust Group today urged motorists in the Midlands to get their cars ready for the snow and icy weather.

Now Volkswagen technicians at Trust's three Volkswagen garages in Wolverhampton, Stourbridge and Redditch are urging motorists to get their cars in top condition to help them stay in the driving seat through the predicted heavy snow, sub-zero temperatures and freezing gales.

Dean Beddows, service manager at Wolverhampton said it was essential for motorists to give their cars a thorough health check before the bad weather sets in.

"It's a well-known fact that you are more likely to break down in bad weather – particularly when it is freezing cold – but by following Volkswagen's winter health checklist you can help yourself avoid problems when the snow falls."

Dean said things for motorists to check and keep an eye

- Tyres. Winter motoring requires at least 3mm of tread on all tyres and it makes sense to check pressures every week. If you need new tyres make sure you fit a reputable make from a good source, and consider winter tyres for
- improved safety.

 Antifreeze. Keep it topped up and if you are concerned get your garage to check concentration to ensure adequate cold temperature protection.
- Battery. Older batteries often fail when the weather turns nasty. If your battery is more than five years old it might be time to consider a replacement to avoid a nasty surprise when the mercury dips.
- Screen wash. Don't be tempted to settle for washing up liquid, which can smear the windscreen and reduce visibility. Use a 50 per cent mix of a good quality brand to reduce the risk of its freezing in the cold.

 • Windscreen. Clean the inside with glass cleaner to
- avoid dazzling rays from the low sun. And check your wipers are in good condition before they are put to too much work in the rain, sleet and snow.
- Service. Get your car serviced by a professional in time for the bad weather if you want to put your mind at rest. That way any nasty surprises should be spotted in time to be put right before they can do too much harm.

Dean also urged motorists not to be lulled into a false sense of security by the current mild weather and to make sure they had a winter emergency kit in the boot of their car.

"Nobody thinks they are going to be caught out, but every year we get at least one fall of heavy snow which

leaves some drivers trapped in their car overnight.
"By making sure you have an emergency kit in the vehicle you improve your chances of both getting through the night unscathed and doing so with at least a degree of comfort.

"A typical kit should include a blanket, rug or sleeping bag, shovel, bits of carpet or thick cardboard to place under driven wheels to help regain traction on ice or snow and

"Drivers should also carry sufficient reflective jackets, an ice scraper and de-icer, torch and batteries, tow rope, snow chains, jump leads, bottled water, snacks such as choco-

late and cereal bars, and extra screen wash.

"It is also a good idea to have a spare charged battery for your mobile phone in case you find yourself stuck for

"The teams at our garages are always more than happy to offer advice and help to any motorist who is unsure about what they might need, and we would urge them to drop in

for a chat to see how we can help put their minds at ease."

A full winter health check is available at Wolverhampton Volkswagen on the Bilston Road, Wolverhampton for just £20.00. To book please call 0843 506 4113







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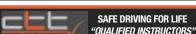
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BMW X5 53, automatic, 3 litre petrol, 47k, blue, 1sh, long MoT, tax, alloys, CD, private plate, leather, good condition. £5,000 ono. 01902 673538.

CITROEN C1 VIBE 1.0 2008, 34,000 miles, black, 6 months MoT, 1 lady owner from new, insurance group

owner from new, insurance group 1. £2,990. 01528 886395. CITROEN C2 1,6VTS, 55 reg, 11 months MoT, FSH, 87,000 miles, black, well looked after, £1,750 ono. 07803 909920.

KIA RIO ecodynamics 2, 1.1 CRDi diesel, 2011 61, silver, new shape, 5dr, 6 speed, 69k, SH free road tax, £5,250. 07984 544409.

4X4

LANDROVER DEFENDER 110, 1998, S reg, 300TDi, MoT May 29, 2015, white, good runner, owned by me for 13 years, new van is reason for

sale, £3.000. 01543 275765

MERCEDES 180 KOMPRESSOR, 06 plate, silver, petrol, tinted glass, MoT Aug, excellent condition. £3,995. 07944 438513.

MITSUBISHI L200 CREW CAB PICK UP 05 plate, MoT August, 2.5 diesel, full spec. £3,250. Telephone 07812 387832.

RENAULT SCENIC 1500cc Diesel, 2007, 57k, 1 owner, tow bar fitted.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 5dr hatchback, silver, auto, 05, 35,200 miles, MoT Sept 2015, excellent condi-tion. £1,900. 01902 374411.

VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 1.4L, 2006, only 49,000 miles, red, manual, petrol, full 12 months MoT. £2,500. 07783 461716.

VW POLO 1.2S

VW POLO 1.2S 2003, 03 plate, 5-dr hatchback, petrol, 83k, CD, aircon, FSH, good clean excellent condition. £2,150. 01902 336421 / 07977

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FORD MONDEO Estate, 52 plate, 1.8 petrol, ish, MoT, very good condition, £795. 07867 685569.

ISUZU TROOPER 3.1 Diesel, 4 x 4, R reg, 11 months MoT, Used daily. Good condition. £1,150 ono. 01384 243085.

PEUGEOT 206 1400CC ZEST 6 months MoT, 54,349 miles, metallic blue, good condition £1,000. 07532 002180

RENAULT SCENIC 7 seater, top model, 1.6, 04, 1 careful owner, 57k miles, FSH, all MoT/bills from new immaculate,£1,495 07479 420371.

SEAT AROSA 1.4 auto, 52 reg, MoT Nov 15, 60k, C/L, E/W, CD, radio and spare key, service £1,200 ono. 07788 686547. TOYOTA COROLLA VVTi GLS 1600 5dr hatch, red, W reg., 2 owners, 88K, new MoT, good con-dition. £625. 07754 839963.

TOYOTA COROLLA VVTi GLS 1600 5dr hatch, red, W reg., 2 owners, 88K, new MoT, good con-dition. £550. 07754 839963.

VW POLO E Hatchback 3dr, 1000cc blue, 12 months MoT, very clear and tidy, must be seen. £895 ono. 07904 427555.

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COURT NO 770 of 2009 RE: JAMES JOSEPH MORETON

Of 50 Hawne Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3RN, Head of IT. D.O.B: 12 October 1976

13.05.12 October 1970 Intended to pay within four months from 6th February 2015 (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of $0.86 \text{ p/}\Sigma$.

dividend of 0.86 p/£.
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A Oliver, Official Receiver and trustee,

LTADT. PO Box 4376. Com House, Crown Way, Cardiff CF14 8JX. Tel: 029 2038 0178 e-mail: RTLU.SouthWest@ insolvency.gsi.gov.uk

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*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies.

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 - Guided tour of the Alhambra
 - Visit to Cordoba
 - Services of a tour manager Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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PRICE FROM



Visit to medieval Ronda

January 15,

Baggies may face action by Jewell

ALBION are ready to defend themselves in a legal dispute with Paul Jewell following his shock departure in a row over pay.

Jewell surprisingly left the Baggies on Tuesday just a week after his appointment as joint-assistant head coach to Tony Pulis. The former Bradford and Wigan boss insisted his exit was 'not by mutual consent'. mutual consent'.

mutual consent'.

It is thought Jewell quit after being asked to take a pay cut following the addition of Gerry Francis to the backroom staff.

It's understood that reaching an agreement with Francis pushed Pulis above the coaching budget he agreed with Albion

when appointed.
Pulis and his other assistant David Kemp offered to take cuts to ac-

offered to take cuts to accommodate Francis, their long-standing associate, but Jewell refused.

The Hawthorns head coach chose to prioritise Francis and allow Jewell to leave, but the 50-year-old is unhappy and taking legal advice.

It's also understood no contracts were signed,

contracts were signed, with Albion comfortable with Albion comfortable they have honoured their word over the overall budget for the backroom staff. Francis said he was unaware of the reasons behind the departure.

Injury leads to match abandoned

Burton 2nds 48 Old Halesonians 2nds 24 Old Halesonians 3rds 7 Old Yardleians 2nds 0

(match abandoned)
LEADING 7-0 at half time,
Old Hales were looking
forward to the second half
. Howeveran accident saw
Hales flanker, Harry Young

require an ambulance.
With the waterlogged condition of the other pitches and the light deteriorating, the referee and the two captains agreed to abandoned the match.

Old Yardleians 3rds 42
Old Halesonians 4ths 7
Old Hales came up against a very experienced
Old Yards side that proved

to be too strong.

Dave Glover scored the Old Hales try.

Pulis planning early shake up of squad

ALBION are considering bids for Wigan winger Callum McManaman and Blackburn striker Rudi Gestede as new boss Tony Pulis continues to seek a January

revamp.

The Baggies have enquired about McManaman, aged 23, and Gestede, 26, and, while no bids have been lodged, they are now deciding whether to firm up their interest.

Pulls is keen to add creativity in wide

Pulis is keen to add creativity in wide areas as well as a powerful centre-forward, with a left-back also thought to be on his shopping list. The new head coach said: "Obviously I'm

looking at bringing a few players in and I think it is important that we are able to do that. We need some players in just to give

that. We need some players in just to give us a boost.

"But it is important that we bring in the right players. It is no good bringing people in if they're not better than the ones we've got, and we need to have a good look at the players who are here before we go out and a meanwadu." sign anybody.
"There will be lots of rumours and lots

of players that we're linked with but a lot will depend on whether we are able to move players on because we don't just want to rush out and sign people that clog up the

system."
Wigan are believed to be asking around £6m for McManaman, who made an impact when the Latics were last in the Premier League, but the asking price is expected to drop as the January transfer window pro-

gresses.
Gestede is a target for several top-flight clubs after forming a useful partnership with the free-scoring Jordan Rhodes. The Baggies are also aware of the po-

tential availability of former Newcastle and Chelsea striker Demba Ba, currently in Turkey with Besiktas, but his wage de-mands are likely to make any deal a non-

starter.
Albion also hope to offload some of their

Altion also hope to offload some of their summer signings.
"There are one or two players who we have looked at and we feel might not play a part but whether we can move them on will depend on who comes in and asks about them," said Pulis.
"They have all worked really well in the time I've been here and, as long as they're here."

Close call as Hales break Sutton jinx

OLD Hales have not seen victory at Sutton for many years at first team level, this was to be the ultimate challenge.

Hales seemed up for it with the return of skipper Rich Taylor at prop and player coach Mark Evans at No.8. From the kick off the Hales boys dominated

play.
They were in charge to such an extent that for 25 minutes Sutton didn't even

minutes Sutton didn't even enter the visitors half. But, despite numerous chances to punish sides, the finishing was not good

and the miniming was not good enough.

After 14 minutes of Hales pressure Sutton gave a penalty away which Chris Hooper converted.

It seemed like the game was only going one way, until on 30 minutes, following several missed tackles inside the Hales half, Sutton managed to break clear and score a very good try through their backs which gave them a 7-3 lead.

The remaining 10 minutes of the half saw Sutton take control around the

take control around the fringes, causing Hales to defend.

The second half contin-

The second nail continued with a confident Sutton having the upper hand in the scrum. A visitors lineout saw the freakish wind gift the ball to the home side who fed the backs for the outside centre to score.

the outside centre to score.

To their credit Hales, on
45 minutes, came straight
back when after pressuring
some loose play, centre Carl
Robinson picked up just
inside his own half and cut
through the home defence
putting wing Luke Smith

away for an unconverted

Another five minutes of Sutton pressure saw them once again take the initiative with a third try and a lead of 17-8.

Hales pack, males pack, attnough under pressure, fought hard to steady the ship. On 54 minutes they built on a lineout, driving maul, up to the Sutton 22 where Mark Evans raced through untouched for a try.

On 74 minutes Hales won a scrum on the Sutton 22 metre line. Scrum half Na-than Jones to Gareth Bown at fly half, a pass to centre Carl Robinson, all expected characteristic sprint

a characteristic sprint through the defence. Robinson had other ideas, he chipped the ball towards the wing where winger War-ren Oliver timed his run perfectly to collect, hand off his opposite man for a sub-lime, deciding try.

The visiting crowd stayed silent hoping the final four minutes would play out. Sutton fought back again but the visitors kept the lead..Peterborough Lions come to Wassel Grove this weekend.

Bournville overcome battling DK squad



Matt Squires brought to the ground by the Bournville defence during a tough away match

Bournville 22 DK 9

AFTER 14 minutes DK was penalised for the tackler not releasing. Bournville shunned the kick at goal opting to kick for the corner.

From the resulting lineout they se-cured possession and formed a roll-ing maul with hooker Danny Griffin being driven over the line for the opening score.

The try went unconverted. DK's aggressive tackling began to

put Bournville under pressure which led to them giving away a penalty in the 20th minute. This time they elected to kick for goal and Jamie Hearn duly added the three points.

Hearn duly added the three points.
Hearn then kicked a penalty.
In the 26th minute, and against the run of play, Bournville regained the lead.
Flyhalf Scot Harman broke from deep inside the Bournville half and kicked ahead. Winger Ashley Knight

won the chase to touch down for the try. Scott Harman then added the extra points. Hearn then added three penalty

points.

In the second half the big heavy
Bournville pack began to take control
and were totally dominant.

Adam Woodfield crossed for a
Bournville try.

On full time Bournville's Ned Ste-

Clegg is the new Heathens skipper

CRADLEY skipper Max Clegg has given the new-look Heathens side the thumbs-up.

Clegg, who returned to the track in practice at the weekend, has been handed the No.1 spot in the 2015 team to defend the National League title.

He will also take over from Paul Starke as the club's new skipper as they prepare for life at Perry Barr after losing the use of Wolverhampton.

Barr after losing the use of Wolverhampton.

Clegg will be joined by Nathan Greaves and Mat Williamson from last season's all-conquering side and Luke Harris is also included after making some guest appearances.

Ellis Perks, Aaron Mogridge and Mike Neale are the new signings and Clegg says they are looking good.

He added: "This year's team is looking good."

Clegg will be unveiled along with the rest of the Heathens side as they host a Season Launch night at the Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill, on Wednesday, March 11 (7.30pm).

Tickets (£5) are on sale for the event, after the

Tickets (#5) are on sale for the event, after the clubs' press and practice day at Perry Barr. They are available on crad-leyheathens.co or from, Printworx, Quarry Bank High Street.

Saddlers are set for a sell-out

WALSALL remain on course to pack out the Banks's Stadium when they take their shot at a first-ever Wembley appearance.

More than three-quarters More than three-quarters of the tickets available to home supporters have already been sold for the second leg of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Northern Area Final on January 27, meaning the club is well set for just the second sell-out at the stadium in a decade.

Dean Smith's men will take a 2-0 lead from the first leg into the game and fans

take a 2-0 lead from the first leg into the game and fans are desperate not to miss the chance to see history made. Around 6,700 tickets have sold and with 1,500 for the visiting side, there are approximately 2,000 for home fans.



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Jinx broken

Close call as Hales take the spoils Page 39

DK downed Victory still eludes battling squad Page 39



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Yeltz get hotshot striker from Utd

HALESOWEN Town have won the battle to sign high-ly-regarded striker Aaron Lloyd from ground tenants Causeway United.

Causeway United.
Redditch United and Tividale were both understood to have been interested in the 21-year-old forward but he has opted to join the Valtz.

Yeltz.
Halesowen boss John Hill
says the former Stourbridge
and Shrewsbury youngster
fits the bill to keep improving his Evo-Stik Northern
Premier squad. He is set
for his debut in Saturday's
home game against Matlock.
"4t 21, Aaron has been
around the non-League
scene for the past four seasons. With this signing, we
are looking after the future
of our football club as we
continue to push on," said
Hill.
Stourbridge will be able to

rill. Stourbridge will be able to call on Brentford prospect Kieran Morris for another month after extending his loan.

The 19-year-old defender has impressed with Gary Hackett's side after join-ing last month and the two clubs have agreed to con-tinue the deal until Febru-

Morris, who had been Morris, who had been on Stourbridge's books as a youth before joining the Bees in 2013, has played six times for the Evo-Stik Northern Premier side.

U-21s derby ends goalless

Wolves U-21s 0

WOLVES' highest reserve gate of the season saw them play out a goalless draw with Albion at Molineux in the mini Black Country der-

the mini Black Country derby, writes Craig Birch.
But only Ibrahim Keita will know how he didn't break the deadlock and give Wolves the bragging rights, missing an absolute sitter in the second-half.
Some 965 supporters, including a smattering of Baggies fans, turned up for the Under-21 Premier League Division Two clash.
Spectators included Wolves boss Kenny Jackett and Albion assistant David

wolves boss kenny Jackett and Albion assistant David Kemp, keeping tabs on the second-string for head coach Tony Pulis.

An even first-half saw the most chances fall to Albion striker Alex Jones with 20

striker Alex Jones with 20 minutes gone.Little more occurred in the second-half.

Tividale take the spark from

Loughborough 1 Tividale 3

TIVIDALE kept up their great spell of form with a well-deserved victory at Loughborough Dynamo in Evo-Stik Division One

South.

The Black Country outfit started the brighter and Andy Parsons will feel he should have done better on 15 minutes when he fired Zach Foster's cross over the beautiful the start of
Joe McCormack. Dynamo's first effort on goal was supplied by Matt Langham when with a great piece of skill he took down a high ball, but his shot went straight into the arms of Tividale keeper Charlie Price. At the other end Edwards worked an opening for Parsons but again he fired off target.

target.
On 25 minutes Tividale took a deserved

played in Edwards who put the ball through McCormack's legs and into the back of the

The home side looked devoid of ideas until the 33rd minute when a rash Richard Huckfield pass went straight to Dynamo's Neil Dawkins and his first-time shot was turned around the post by Price. The danger was not clear though as from the resulting corner the scores were level when Pheasant's thumping header gave Price no chance

half and Tividale were glad of the half-time

Tividale had the ball in the Dynamo net on 61 minutes when Edwards was the first to react after McCormack parried his header and he bundled the ball over the line but the referee blew for a foul.

Danny Ashton beat Dynamo full-back Carl Sibson and his cross was met by Down-ing whose shot beat McCormack despite the keeper's effort.

Tividale made the points secure in injury time through substitute Jordan Archerwho slid the ball past the advancing McCormack.

Tipton down by four-ce

Tipton 0 AFC Wulfs 4

A brace from Andy Thompson helped AFC Wulfrunians to a 4-0 victory against Tipton Town in the Midland League Premier Division.

Thompson opened the

Thompson opened the scoring after just 11 minutes when he fired in from the edge of the area.

He turned provider for the second goal, latching on to a Liam Bood pass and setting up Jamie King to crash the ball in off the underside of the bar.

A goal-line scramble could have put the visitors out of sight before half-time. David Howells saw his header saved, Thompson saw his shot blocked and Bood saw his effort saved before the ball was eventually cleared.

Just after the break, King wort work two defeaters.

Just after the break, King went past two defenders with ease, but his low shot from the edge of the area was tipped away by Tipton keeper Jack Hayfield.

Reeper Jack Hayneid.

Danny Tipton's only save
of the game came when he
had to push away Tipton
substitute Ian Millward's
long-range effort with 70
minutes played.

After 80 minutes Thomps
on added his second. Craigs

son added his second Craig Gregg to completed the scor-ing four minutes from time.

Carles excited to make Villa move

NEW signing Carles Gil is excited to begin his Premier League adventure after completing a £3m move to Villa.

Villa.

The 22-year-old, who can play on either flank or behind the strikers, has joined from Valenica on a four-and-a-half year deal.

Gilcould make his debut on Saturday against Liverpool.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, January 15

Tividale's Chris Field, marvelling in his

new right-back position, then went on a run down the right flank but again the final ef-fort was not enough to trouble home keeper

lead when, from a Dynamo attack that broke down, Leigh Downing broke free and

The goal swung the momentum the home side's way for the last 10 minutes of the

LTZ FIGHT BA

CE TO VICTORY

HARD-WORKING Halesowen turned around a half-time deficit in a seven-goal thriller.

Halesowen went ahead after just five minutes when captain Joe Hull turned home a corner from Aaron Griffiths within the six-yard box but the lead wasn't to last too long as Matlock struck back.

SUPUCK DACK.
But James Ashmore
struck twice as the Gladiators snatched a shock
half-time lead after home
forward Aaron Daniels received a straight red card
in the 35th minute when
Adon Vates went to ground

in the 35th minute when Adam Yates went to ground clutching his face.

Ashmore equalised with an unstoppable thunderbolt into the top angle from 25 yards in the 43rd minute and converted a penalty two minutes later when home goalkeeper Matt Sargeant brought down Joe Leesley on the edge of the penalty area. area.

Steeled

Ten-man Halesowen dis-played their true team spirit and steeled themselves after the interval to turn the

after the interval to turn the game around and take away the initiative from Matlock. The comeback was started when Ben Haseley made it 2-2 in the 50th minute with an excellent finish from a free-kick which was taken quickly.

free-kick which was taken quickly.

The Yeltz regained the lead at 3-2 in the 58th minute when a fierce drive from Griffiths deflected past goal-keeper Jon Kennedy which seemed to put the Yeltz in the driving seat.

With time running out,

Football

Halesowen hearts seemed to have been broken when Matlock substitute Jason Stokes headed home when he was left unmarked and

he was left unmarked and had enough room to get the strike in the 85th minute to bring things level against three all.

But Halesowen's hopes weren't completely dashed when the final score came though and they won the game with a last minute dramatic twist when the unfortunate Muhammed Sabo turned Curtis Tilt's shot into his own net from a Tom Tonks corner as the Yeltz hit where able to get four goals past Matlock for the third time this season.

Halesowen Town:

Halesowen Town: Sargeant; Green, Griffiths, Forde, Hull (c), Tilt, Char-Iton, Tonks, Daniels, Hase-ley (Thompson-Brown 73), Bragoli (Turner 46).

Bragoli (Turner 46).

Unused Subs: Kettle,
Christie, Pearson (GK).

Matlock Town: Kennedy; Humble (Holland 79),
Radford (Stokes 61), Neednam, Sabo, Yates, Harcourt (c), Ashmore, Leesley, Greg-ory, Roe.

ory, Roe.
Unused Subs: Foster. Referee: Martin Dexter

Tears at Molineux over passing of Sir Jack



Wolves players are united in respect as they observe a minute's silence following the passing of Sir Jack Hayward, before Tuesday night's third round FA Cup replay with Fulham, which Wolves lost on penalties

Hayward, before luesday night's t JEZ MOXEY hailed 'saviour of Wolves' Sir Jack Hayward and ad-mitted: "The club might not be here without him". Sir Jack, who died on Tuesday aged 91, pumped £70m of his own fortune into the club, overseeing the rebuild of Molineux and the club'sre-turn to the ton flight in 2003.

territor to the top flight in 2003.

And current chief executive Moxey believes his contribution cannot be over-estimated. "The club could have

gone out of business at the time he stepped in and saved it," said Moxey before the heart-breaking FA Cup penalty shoot-out defeat to Fulham. "It certainly would not have been nurtured and loved the way it has to create what we have now. Unfortunately a lot of people measure football by simply league position, what points have you got – but there was much more to it than that. A philanthropic approach to it as an asset for

gone out of business at the time he the city, to be saved for the fans, and

the city, to be saved for the fans, and managed in a way befitting of him as a patriot of the club."

Asked where the club would have been without Sir Jack, Moxey replied: "It may not be here at all is the honest answer, certainly not in its current patronage."

Moxey also paid a warm personal tribute, adding: "He was the most generous-hearted, kind man you could ever want to meet."



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